

FINAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY REPORT

BURLINGTON RECREATION & PARKS COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN (Through the Year 2022)

DECEMBER 2012



**CITY OF BURLINGTON
COMPREHENSIVE
RECREATION AND PARKS MASTER PLAN UPDATE
THROUGH THE YEAR 2022**

**For
BURLINGTON, NC
Approved by City Council
December, 2012**



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2012 MASTER PLAN UPDATE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The Burlington Recreation & Parks Department (BRPD) has a long history of providing leisure opportunities since its establishment in 1936 on a shoestring budget of \$1500. Today, the Department is recognized as being one of the strongest and most respected Recreation & Parks Departments in North Carolina. The department's mission centers around providing diversified program opportunities at properly designed and strategically located facilities throughout the city. Its commitment to improving and sustaining amenities that provide positive "quality of life" standards in the City has made it a cornerstone of Burlington's sterling reputation as one of the best public service providers in the state.

Many changes have occurred since Burlington updated its Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan (1994 Master Plan). These include expanded City boundaries, increased development, and population growth. This development has created demand for public services such as schools sewer, water, and roads—along with recreational opportunities. Demand for recreational opportunities has also increased throughout the State of North Carolina; dramatically changing the role of city and county governments as providers of recreational services. In 2012, there were 247 recreation departments either city, county, or joint city/county in North Carolina recognized by North Carolina Recreation and Park Association (NCRPA). Whereas in 1999, there were 209 and in 1991, there were 187. New development and population growth are the primary cause for the increased number of recreation departments.

The 1994 Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Master Plan (1994 Master Plan) was based upon a review of the entire community, an analysis of the existing park system, the identification of user needs with considerable public input, the development of recreation standards, and an adherence to stated recommendations and proposals. The plan's design was to provide the City a framework of recommendations that would enhance its parks and recreation system through the year 2010. Shortly after the completion of the 1994 Master Plan, the Department began developing and implementing improvements identified by the plan.

The following accomplishments were a result of recommendations of the 1994 Master Plan:

- Development of the Kernodle Sr. Activities Center, (opened 1999)
- Joint use projects with the School system (Smith & Hillcrest Elementary school fields 1995/96)
- Renovation and Expansion of City Park facilities
 - Amusements improvements and trail expansion (1995-97)
 - Development of an Aquatics Facility (1995-97)
 - Development of a Tennis Facility
- Community Park Development and Land Acquisition (Davidson Park & Springwood Park)
- Neighborhood Park Improvements (primarily associated with updating site amenities)
- Renovation of the Paramount Theater (1996-1998)
- Additional facilities at Lake Mackintosh (1998)
- Implemented streamlined registration procedures, customer satisfaction surveys and citywide communication network and web page.

Statistics indicate the City's population will continue to grow moderately, placing additional burden on the existing park system. As stated in the original plan, meeting increased demand for additional recreation programs and facilities will be an ever-increasing challenge for the City. In addition, some facilities within the system have outlived their design intent and need replacement or significant renovation or expansion. This is an appropriate time for the City to reassess the usefulness of existing recreation facilities and revise the master plan to help address future needs in a proactive manner.

The Department must be proactive to meet the future needs of the community and a well-defined master plan is an important part of the process.

Located approximately 15 miles east of Greensboro and 30 miles west of Durham/Chapel Hill, Burlington is the largest and most populous city in Alamance County. Burlington is a major employment center within the county with a total land area of approximately 25 square miles. The Greater Burlington Area includes the cities and towns of Burlington, Alamance, Elon, Gibsonville, Graham, Green Level, Haw River, Mebane, Swepsonville and Whitsett.

Master Plan Purpose

The City selected Woolpert to evaluate existing park facilities and develop new strategies for meeting future recreation needs. The 2012 Master Plan Update intends to revise all sections of the original report through use of a “*modified Executive Summary Report*” that outlines major changes to the findings and recommendations of the original document.

The main purpose of this “2012 Update” is to reassess the 1994 report findings and update the recommendations based on changes in demographics, facility inventory, and community input.

As in the original Master Plan, the report consists of six major components:

1. Introduction & Maser Plan Purpose
2. Review of Demographic Information (update of population information)
3. Inventory of Existing Recreation Facilities & Programs
4. Community Needs Assessment of Recreation and Facilities
5. Master Plan Proposals and Recommendations
6. Action Plan Implementation

In 1994 members of City Council, the Recreation and Parks Commission, and City staff recognized the need for updating their Master Plan. The general purpose of the plan, then and now, is to formulate recommendations for the growing recreational needs of the City and be a usable and accurate tool in guiding actions and decisions concerning the following areas:

- Future recreation role for the city
- Park facility development and renovation
- Cooperative efforts in providing recreation needs
- Open space and greenway needs
- Possible land acquisitions

Review of Demographic Information & Physical Factors

Demographic information for Burlington is briefly reviewed below to gain an understanding of unique characteristics within the community and to identify factors that may influence recreation and park planning. The current and projected factors relevant to the City are presented in “bullet form” under two categories— *recreational-related demographics* and *physical factors*. Recreational-related demographics include a composite of the population, population projections, growth trends, economic factors, and land-

use patterns. Physical factors that may have an impact on recreational facilities include headings such as topography, highways and roads, physical barriers, watersheds, flood plains, easements, rights-of-ways, and utility corridors.

Recreational-Related Growth Dynamics and Demographics

Population

- Information concerning the demographic makeup of the area population such as age, gender, and income play a role in determining recreational needs and demands for the community.
- Population projections for this plan were obtained from 2000 US Census, and 2011/12 North Carolina Office of State Budget & Management (OSBM)—Demographic Branch Planning certified estimates.
- In general, Burlington should experience population growth through the planning period because of its geographic location and the economic influences of the North Carolina Piedmont that occur from the Triad area, Durham/Chapel Hill and the RTP. The 2022 population is estimated at 58,127.
- Using NC-OSBM estimates, the annual population growth rate of 1.44% for the City between 2010 and 2012 the estimated population for 2012 is 51,949. The rate of annual growth from 2010-2012 (1.44%) can be attributed to annexation and will likely fall to 1.1% near the end of the planning period. This rate is lower than projected for the States' overall population.
- The City, like most urban areas of North Carolina and the United States is becoming older and more culturally diverse. For example, median age for the State in 2010 was estimated at 37.4 whereas Alamance County was 38.7 and Burlington was 38.3.

Population projections for the City of Burlington and the planning area through the year 2022 are as follows:

**TABLE 1-1
POPULATION PROJECTIONS**

Location	2000	2010	% Growth 2000-10	2012	% Growth 2010-12	2017	% Growth 2012-17	2022	% Growth 2018-22
Burlington, City of	44,917 ¹	50,475 ¹	12.37%	51,949 ³	2.92%	55,033 ⁴	5.93%	58,127 ⁵	5.62%
Alamance County	130,820 ¹	151,745 ¹	16.00%	156,640 ²	3.22%	168,875 ²	7.81%	181,109 ²	7.24%

¹ Source: 2000 & 2010 US Census, (Note: 2000-2010 Average annual growth City = 1.17% & County = 1.49%)

² Source: NC-Office of State Budget & Management (OSBM) Certified Population Estimates for Counties & Municipalities, County Projected Annual Populations, Totals, 2010-2019 & 2020-2029 (Sep. 2011 update)

³ Source: Woolpert population projection based on a 1.44% avg. annual growth rate (2010-2012)

⁴ Source: Woolpert population projection based on a 1.16% average annual growth rate (2013-2017)

⁵ Source: Woolpert population projection based on a 1.10% average annual growth rate ((2018-2022)

Land Use

- Existing land use is defined in general terms by land use categories that are listed under various Zoning Districts within the City Zoning Ordinance
- Land development is similar or other North Carolina Cities in that most of the high-density development occurs within or along the major thoroughfares of the city.
- A majority of the commercial development, mainly retail, is located along the I-40 corridor west of the city center at University Drive, Huffman Mill Road, and Alamance Road. In addition, commercial and office development is located along I-70/Church Street and within the CBD. Manufacturing and

Industry is scattered however most are along the rail corridors or close to interstate access. The City has also identified an industrial/business park zone near the airport

- Most growth will continue to occur along accessible utilities and roads. Historically, this has occurred west and southwest of the City's center and will likely continue through 2022.

Physical Setting/Factors

- The following physical or geographical barriers help define limits of growth for the City:
 - North & East — the Haw River and the communities of Graham & Haw River
 - Southeast — the town of Graham
 - West — the town of Elon
 - South — Interstate 40/85 is a man-made barrier that divides the city north to south and has affected growth and land use patterns

Transportation

- Interstate 40/85, US-70, NC62, NC 54 and NC 49 provide highway service. In addition, an extensive secondary road system connects with all areas of Alamance County.
- Amtrak and Norfolk Southern provide rail service to the City. The new downtown rail station opened in 2003.

Inventory of Existing Recreation Facilities and Programs

- Table 2-1, "City of Burlington Recreation & Park Facility Inventory" identifies each facility in the system as provided by the department. The 1994 Master Plan report, the Departments Park Amenities Inventory booklet, and the Department website (<http://www.burlingtonnc.gov/recreation>) provide details on individual sites. *(Table 2-1 is attached at the end of this executive summary report)*
- The following new recreation sites have been added to the system since the 1994 Master Plan and have been included in the updated Facility Inventory, Table 2-1:
 - Springwood Park
 - Kernodle Sr. Activities Center
 - Burlington Tennis Facility
 - Paramount Theater
 - Haw River Greenway Trail
- Burlington Recreation and Parks Department provides organized programs for enjoyment by the citizens of Burlington and the study area. Programs include leisure classes, workshops, instructional classes, trips, athletic leagues, and special events for citizens of all ages. *(Table 2-2 "BRPD Programs/Events Listing" is attached at the end of this executive summary report)*
- Many of the instructional classes conducted by the Department are fitness and athletic related. However, many special offerings are related to arts and crafts or providing community awareness on current topics like self-defense, substance abuse prevention and internet use etc. In addition, the Department offers a variety of summer camp/specialty clinic programs that provide supervised instruction on a wide array of activities.
- Attendance for all programs, events and activities is estimated to be over 500,000 visits annually.

Recreation Standards and Community Needs Assessment

The recreation needs of Burlington were ascertained through public comment, an inventory of existing land and facilities, interviews with recreation user groups, an informal survey, and a review of typical and

generally accepted park, recreation and open space standards. Department staff was also involved during the process to solicit input from their perspective. The national standards are a useful guide in determining minimum requirements; however, the City must establish its own standards in consideration of the expressed needs and the City's economic, administrative, operational, and maintenance capabilities.

Completing a thorough needs assessment is a critical step in revising the goals and objectives of any future recreation plans. The assessment can also support decisions relating to the allocation of resources for developing programs or facilities by providing information required to support strategies for implementing allocation decisions.

Community needs for recreation programs and park facilities were determined by using four assessment techniques that included the following:

- Community input from public forums/workshops.
- Focus group interviews with different groups, organizations, and individuals representing various interests.
- Community input from an informal survey/questionnaire.
- Review of recreation standards for parkland acreage and facilities.

Community Input

The public involvement process was formatted into three major efforts as follows:

- Focus Group Meetings and Public Workshop held at the Kernodle Sr. Center (May 22, 2012)
- Survey/questionnaire responses (May, 2012 – June, 2012)
- Review of Workshop information from the 2008 Alamance County Parks Plan

Focus Group Workshop Meetings

Separate meetings were scheduled with focus groups to discuss recreation and park issues on May 22, 2012. Four (4) separate meetings were conducted with various groups and organizations that are estimated to represent over 2,000 people. Each group focused on discussing its own special needs and interests but members also contributed comments as individuals concerning issues or needs they felt were important to the entire community. During the sessions, each representative was asked to identify pressing or important issues pertaining to recreational services, programs, and facilities provided in the area. The following list summarizes the most common needs as brought forward at the focus group meetings:

- Partnerships are key to any future improvements The following Partners were discussed
 - Athletic Association + Convention & Visitors Bureau(CVB)/Sports Development Council
 - Alamance Arts Council
 - Burlington Downtown Corp
 - Healthy Alamance
 - Alamance County Recreation & Parks (ACRPD)
 - Alamance Foundation & New Leaf
 - Alamance-Burlington School System
 - Glencoe Mill Village redevelopment organization and partners
 - City Stormwater Division
- Facility Needs:
 - Need an indoor gym/ recreation center on the west side of the City
 - Environmental Education / Nature Museum site is needed for the area (tie in with County plans at NC site or Glencoe Mill)
 - Springwood fields need drainage improvements to make them more payable
 - Springwood expansion should be considered to get more practice and game facilities
 - Expand at Davidson Park and Springwood where adjacent property might be available

- City park baseball/softball fields appear underused. Re-design the park for the best use of space (possibly multipurpose fields for LX, soccer, football etc.).
- Connect pedestrian walks to parks and use areas. Connect walk improvement from the City's Pedestrian Master Plan with access points of proposed Haw River Trail
- Downtown space for Arts & Entertainment — Improve and expand space indoor and outdoor space at Paramount Theater & Depot (for rehearsal, performance, gallery, reception/meeting set construction/storage).
- Improve disabled access at parks and programs. Inclusive design for sites is best and expansion of special population programming is needed. Playgrounds should all be “accessible”.
- Fairchild Park needs improvements at the center, the ball field and the BMX track
- Program & Policy Needs / Ideas:
 - ABSS joint use agreement needs to be formalized (possible use of ACRPD agreement)
 - Improve play area accessibility standards
 - Expand special population programming
 - Expand arts and environmental education programs
 - Can policy on alcohol be reviewed to make more easily obtained at fund raising events
 - Expand arts and environmental education programs

(See Appendix for notes/minutes from the Focus Group Meetings)

Community Workshop Meetings

A community workshop was scheduled on May 22 at the Kernodle Senior Center from 6:30pm -8:30 pm to solicit input for the Comprehensive Master Plan. Only one resident who was not associated with the department attended the meeting. The intent of the meeting was to have participants break into groups and in a “roundtable setting” provide recommendations and need statements concerning facilities, programs and funding of recreation. Since attendance was not as expected, we discussed the information that had come from the focus groups and asked for additional input. There are many ways to examine the lack of community input at the meeting. One commonly expressed at focus group meetings is that the department was on track with providing for recreational needs in the community and opportunity for input was available via other venues such as the City web page, and other internet or social media conduits. This interpreted confidence in the Departments competency could easily have kept people away. Confidence in the actions of the Department was also evident in survey response data. Additionally, there did not appear to be any major issues driving a particular project or need. (See Appendix for summary notes from the focus group meetings and survey responses).

To supplement input for the plan the project team revisited information obtained from residents who attended a similar workshop for the 2008 Alamance County Comprehensive Recreation Plan. This meeting gave the public an opportunity to help guide the draft proposals of the plan and most of the attendees were from Burlington. During the meeting, each attendee was assigned to a group of 8-12 individuals. With assistance from City Staff or a Woolpert team member the group developed need statements and funding recommendations thru the following process.

The Comprehensive Master Plan exercise consisted of the following instructions:

- *Work in roundtable discussion groups.*
- *Appoint a ‘note taker’ and ‘spokesperson’ for each group.*
- *Begin by documenting all thoughts regarding the needs for parks and recreation facilities. Discuss the needs for new sites and facilities and also existing park (15 minutes).*
- *Each group will then prioritize your top 5 need statements. Be as specific as possible regarding the park, facility type trail/greenway, generalized location, new development, or renovation, etc. (15 minutes).*
- *Finally, provide ideas for funding or implementing your top 5 need statements. Be as specific as*

possible and consider some of the following: donations, partnerships, grants, foundations, general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, non-tax generated revenue from user fees and charges, additional tax set aside for park development, etc. (10 minutes).

- *Be prepared to present your ideas to the rest of the audience.*
- **The following list summarizes facility needs as most commonly brought forward at workshops for the Alamance County Comprehensive Recreation Plan :**
 - Use greenways to connect exiting facilities and attractions (recreation-commercial-residential-tourism-heritage-schools etc.) Promote as Alternative Transportation route (TEA-21)
 - Develop and maintain Outdoor Rec. facilities and programs — “River”, Greenways-Walks etc.
 - Preserve open space
 - Provide Passive Parks with plenty of open space preservation
 - Modernize existing facilities (facelift, ADA etc.)
 - Develop canoe & camping offerings at Glencoe (including livery)
 - Provide a senior facility for rural residents
 - Cooperative partnerships among government agencies—Funding
 - Promote that Money spent on Recreation is More productive than spending in other areas like jails (prevention vs. policing)
 - Recreation is an Essential Service that allows for a community to “Be the Best”
 - Sports Fields and courts (multipurpose for practice and competition)
 - County support for Local/Municipal projects that provide benefit to all County residents
 - Open green space areas and picnic areas
- **The following list summarizes implementation and funding ideas as brought forward at the workshops:**
 - Partnerships (public/private, school/park, city/county etc.)
 - Bonds
 - User fees and revenues
 - Grants (foundations, public, private,)
 - Create a parks foundation
 - Designate tax for recreation (1/2¢ to 1¢)
 - Private donations and contributions including “Sweat equity” (provide tax incentives)
 - Corporate sponsorship
 - Long Term leases
 - Mandatory development fees
 - Use Hospitality Sales Tax for facilities that promote/bring tourism
 - Raise taxes (property)

Online Survey/Questionnaire

In addition to input from the meeting, the Parks and Recreation Department developed a survey/questionnaire for gauging public needs. The survey/questionnaire made available online at “Google Docs”, an online survey service, through a link at the Departments web-site. The survey was available from May 14, through June 22, 2012. Over 305 survey responses were documented by the service. The respondents were 62% female, 38% male, 49% between the ages of 25-44, and 99% think “the contribution of recreation and parks to the quality of life in the City of Burlington is Very Important or Somewhat Important. *(See Appendix for a copy of the survey results).*

The following information summarizes some of the major findings from the survey concerning facility needs, existing facility conditions, land acquisition, future park development, and park funding. *(The survey question number is shown below as Q# and the response summary follows)*

- **General Highlights of the survey**

- 74% of respondents are City residents (62 % Female 38% Male)
- 48% of respondents live in Households of 3-4 persons
- 49% of respondents were of age groups “25-34” & “35-44”
- 99% of respondents think the contribution of recreation and parks to the quality of life in the City of Burlington is Very Important or Somewhat Important (85% “Very” & 14% “Somewhat”)
- 75% of respondents or a member of their household has participated in a program offered by BRPD in the last 12 months
- 74% of respondents rated PROGRAMS offered by BRPD as Good (44%) to Excellent (30%)
- 79% of respondents rated FACILITIES offered by BRPD as Good (55.7%) or Excellent (23.6%)

Survey Data Review :(305 responses)

- Q1: Are you a City of Burlington resident?
 - 74 % of respondents are City residents
- Q2: What is your Gender?
 - (62 % Female 38% Male)
- Q3: What is your age?
 - 49% of respondents were of age groups “25-34” & “35-44”
- Q4: Counting yourself, how many people live in your household?
 - 48% of respondents live in Households of 3-4 persons
- Q5: In your opinion, how important is the contribution of recreation and parks to the quality of life in the City of Burlington?
 - 99% of respondents think the contribution of recreation & parks to the quality of life in the Burlington is Very Important or Somewhat Important (85% “Very” & 14% “Somewhat”)
- Q6: Which of the following recreation and leisure activities do you and others in your household participate? (Check all that apply)
 - Top Ten leisure activities participated by the respondent or a household member:

1. Festivals & Special Events	68%
2. Walking/Jogging	61%
3. Playgrounds	54%
4. Exercise/Fitness	53%
5. Swimming	50%
6. Outdoor Concerts	49%
7. Picnics	44%
8. Hiking	38%
9. Gardening	38%
10. Soccer	37%

- Q7: Have you or another member of your household participated in any recreation programs offered by the Burlington Recreation and Parks Department in the past twelve months?
 - 75% of respondents or a member of their household has participated in a program offered by BRPD in the last 12 months
- Q8: Overall, how would you rate the PROGRAMS offered by Burlington Recreation & Parks? (example-athletics, camps, senior programming etc.)
 - 74% of respondents rated PROGRAMS offered by BRPD as Good (44%) or Excellent (30%)
- Q9: Overall, how would you rate the FACILITIES offered by Burlington Recreation & Parks? (examples are athletics, camps, senior programming etc.)
 - 79.3% rated FACILITIES offered by BRPD as Good (55.7%) or Excellent (23.6%)
- Q10: Which of the following City of Burlington parks or facilities have you or other members of your household visited during the past twelve months? (Check all that apply)
 - Most visited Park or Facility by the respondent or household member, the past 12 months:

1. City Park	94%
2. Davidson Park	63%
3. Springwood Park	57%
4. Maynard Aquatic Center	50%
5. Fairchild Park	30%
- Q11: Which of the following Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities have you or other members of your household visited in the past two years? (Check all that apply)
 - Most visited facility by the respondent or a household member in the past two years:

1. City Park Amusement Park	85%
2. Paramount Theater	57%
3. Walking and biking trails	56%
4. Outdoor playgrounds for children	55%
5. Lakes & Marinas	54%
6. Picnic shelters/ rental buildings	50%
7. Baseball fields	49%
8. Soccer fields	47%
9. Softball fields	33%
10. Community Centers	33%
- Q12: Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. – (12 items/improvements listed)
 - **Ranking of Top Five improvements for Existing Parks "Very Important"**
 1. Develop greenways and improved modes of pedestrian travel from parks to Multipurpose trails (biking/skating/jogging/walking)
 2. Multipurpose trails (biking/skating/jogging/walking)
 3. Expanding existing parks and open space
 4. Renovating existing outdoor athletic fields
 5. Renovating playgrounds

- **Ranking of Top five Improvements at Existing Parks
"Very Important" or "Somewhat important"**
 1. Multipurpose trails (biking/skating/jogging/walking)
 2. Develop greenways and improved modes of pedestrian travel from parks to Multipurpose trails (biking/skating/jogging/walking)
 3. Expanding existing parks and open space
 4. Renovating playgrounds
 5. Renovating existing outdoor athletic fields
- Q13: Burlington Recreation & Parks may consider developing and maintaining NEW recreation and parks facilities. For each item listed below, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for us to develop. -. – (12 items/improvements listed)
 - **Ranking of Top Five improvements for NEW Parks/Facilities "Very Important"**
 1. Multipurpose trails - 52.2% (biking/skating/jogging/walking))
 2. Handicapped Accessible Playgrounds - 40.7%
 3. Outdoor pools w/spec. water features - 40.3% Acquire
 4. Acquire land for future park development - 38%
 5. Indoor Rec-Center w/gym, indoor play – 35.7%
 - **Ranking of Top five Improvements at NEW Parks /Facilities
"Very Important" or "Somewhat important"**
 1. Multipurpose trails - 90.8% (biking/skating/jogging/walking)
 2. Handicapped Accessible Playgrounds – 79.3%
 3. Outdoor pools w/spec. water features -76.4%
 4. Acquire land for future park development - 75%
 5. Environmental education center – 74.1%
 6. Rec-Center w/gym, indoor play – 71.5%

State and National Assessments

The President's Commission on Americans Outdoor (started in 1985), National Sporting Goods Association (1997-2011), and the United States Forest Service (1997-2005) has conducted surveys designed to determine trends for recreational activities on the national level. Additionally, since 1989, the State of North Carolina Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) provides information on trends affecting recreation within the state. This data was updated in 2008 for the latest plan "NCORP 2009 thru 2013".

The importance of reviewing these surveys is to identify trends in participation for specific recreational activities or facilities. A brief review of the afore-mentioned surveys indicates there are common activities that people found popular and they should be taken into consideration when developing new parks or programs.

Common activities from the surveys: The following 10 activities were found within the top 15-activities of the four surveys:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| – Walking (for pleasure or exercise) | – Picnicking |
| – Swimming (pool or non-pool) | – Visiting natural sites (for scenery, sightseeing, “viewing activities” etc.) |
| – Biking | – Exercise/Workout at club/center |
| – Attending sporting events | – Fishing |
| – Playing sports | – Boating |
- **Activities that appear to be gaining in popularity:** The trend identification is based on an activity’s participation rate growing faster than the population growth rate (>.95%)

– Hiking/backpacking	– Attend outdoor concert and plays
– Yoga & Aerobic Exercising	– Exercise w/Equipment
– Running/ Jogging	– Exercise Walking
– Lacrosse	– Kayaking
– Tennis	– Target shooting
– Skiing	– Attend sports event

Recreation Standards

Park Classifications and Land Requirements

- The Master Plan preparation process included reviewing standards from the 1994 Plan. This included information developed by organizations such as the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (NCDENR) and the master plans for cities of similar size. In addition, specific characteristics such as local natural resources, economic conditions, land use availability, cultural preferences and community needs contribute to the formation of Burlington’s recreation standards
- The classifications for the plan follow those made in the 1994 Plan. They are Regional Park, District Park, Community Park, Neighborhood Park, Mini Park, Greenway/Linear Park, and Unique/Specialized Area.
- The recommended standards for classifying parks and their land area requirements are described below and itemized in Table 3-1—Park Classification and Land Area Requirements. (*Table 3-1 is attached at the end of this Executive Summary*)

Park Classification Descriptions: (as shown in Table 3-1)

- Regional Park – Typically, ±1,000 Acres, has a 1 hr. service radius (± 40–60 miles), serves +/-50,000–100,000 people, and acreage is determined at 10-Acres per 1,000 people.
- District Park – Typically, 150–200 + Acres, has an 8–10 mile service radius (15–20 min. commute), serves 20,000–50,000 people, and acreage is determined at 5-Acres per 1,000 people.
- Community Park – Typically 40+ Acres (25-30 min.), has a 2–3 mi. service radius, serves 5,000–15,000 people or an entire community, and acreage is determined at 5-Acres per 1,000 people.
- Neighborhood Park – Typically ±5–10 Acres, has a ½ –1 mile service radius, serves 1,000-5,000 people, acreage is determined at 5-7 Acres per 1,000 people (94 plan = 7 ac.).
- Mini Park – Typically ±.25–1.0 Acres, has a ¼ - ½ mile service radius, serves 1,000-5,000 people, acreage is determined at .25 Acres per 1,000 people.
- Special Use & Unique Areas – No Std.
- Greenway/Linear Park – Standards Vary, typical range is .2–.4 miles per 1,000 people (94 plan=.4/1000).

Evaluation of Parkland Needs

The minimum parkland requirement (in acres) for the total population of the City of Burlington is provided in Table 3-2 — Total Park Sites and Acreage Requirements (See Table 3-2 attached at the end of the Executive Summary). The acreage requirement is based upon the population ratio method (acres of parkland per 1,000 population) established for each park classification. Additional acreage needed by the end of the planning period (2022) is summarized by park type as follows:

- **2022 TOTAL PARK ACREAGE IDENTIFIED BY STANDARDS: (SEE TABLE 3-2)**
(Note: Figures shown (ac or sites) do not take into account existing sites)
 - Regional Parks: 581 acres or 1-2 sites available to Burlington residents
 - District Parks: 291 acres or approximately 3-4 parks for the total population of the county.
 - Community Parks: 291 acres for the total population or approximately 4-total community parks.
 - Neighborhood Parks: 58 acres for the total population or approximately 7-8 neighborhood parks
 - Mini Parks – 15 acres for the total population or a minimum of 15 parks
- **LAND NEEDS FOR 2022** (when taking into account existing parks site acreage)
 - Regional Park Land—existing acreage is adequate (581 ac. need per std.; +10,000 ac. exist)
 - District Park Land—existing acreage is adequate (291 ac. need per std.; ±671 ac. exist)
 - Community Park Land—need ±114 acres or 1-2 sites (291 ac. need per std; 177 ac. exist)
 - Neighborhood Park Land—need ±20 acres or 2 sites (58 ac. need per std.; 38 ac. exist)
 - Mini Park/Tot Lots Land—need ±8 acres (15 ac. need per std.; 6+ ac. exist)

Master Plan Proposal and Recommendations

- As one of the best recreational service providers in the state Burlington Recreation and Parks Department is known for its dedicated staff and the variety of recreational offerings it provides to the community. In the future, the department will be challenged to provide new and improved facilities to accommodate growth and help maintain “Quality Of Life” measures that make the City a desirable place to reside.
- As identified in previous sections of the report, it is a foregone conclusion the City’s population will continue growing faster to the west and southwest. This growth will definitely place additional burden on the existing facilities within the City.
- Public input brought forward during the planning process suggests that the citizen's interest and demand for “quality leisure services” will only increase as time passes, and they have stated a need for more facilities to be developed.
- Additionally, citizens expect local government to be a major provider of recreational services at a price that will accommodate as many people as possible.
- To present a realistic plan for meeting the recreational needs of the future, the consultant developed “preliminary” master plan recommendations that were evaluated with BRPD staff on how well it addresses Burlington’s recreational needs. Upon this review, the preliminary recommendations were presented and reviewed with Recreation Commission members on July 12, 2012. The purpose of each meeting was to refine the proposals and report findings to move forward with a final presentation to City Council on December 03, 2012.
- **Recommendations have been divided into the following categories:**
 - Roles of Providers
 - Park Proposals and Recommendations

- Facility Proposals and Recommendations

Roles of Recreation Providers

Unless additional funding is granted from other government agencies, meeting all the recreational needs of the community will require a joint effort between the various government agencies and the private sector. **No one group can be held solely responsible for providing all the programs and facilities for the community.** Recreation providers include Federal Agencies, the State of North Carolina, Alamance County, other Towns and Municipalities in Alamance County, the School System, and the Private Sector. The Private sector includes commercial recreation providers, the corporate community, and developers. The following recommendations describe roles for each recreational provider during the planning period with the understanding of the following premise:

The Master Plan is based on the premise that the City will be responsible for developing and maintaining future park and recreation facilities for use by all City residents. Facility and parkland needs were identified for the plan based on the anticipated 2022 population of 58,127. To meet these increased needs, increase partnerships with Alamance County and other providers will be critical.

Burlington

- The City should concentrate on providing neighborhood parks, community parks, and special facilities for use primarily by City residents.
- Continue to support and maintain existing facilities operated by the Department
- Expand/Improve sites where possible
- Continue to implement the greenway plan with the County
- City should work on a formal joint-use agreement with schools for use of existing and future school sites. Be involved with design of new sites so that park use is available from the very beginning to create school-recreation sites specifically designed for "Joint Use"
- Continue to use the Land Development Ordinance to review development for acquisition of land to implement park facilities

Alamance County:

- To meet the needs of its increased population the County's primary role should be to offer facilities on a countywide basis. Typically, county government provides these facilities at district parks and at specialized facilities. Work on creating a joint use agreements with the schools and other providers like Burlington, Elon, Graham, Mebane and other towns in the county
- Provide, develop and maintain District Parks and special facilities like those at Cedarrock Park, Haw River trail and greenway, Glencoe, Big Bend Park, and Shallow Ford.
- The county also provides assistance with community recreation sites as needed. (Through joint agreements with other agencies and offerings by their own Department).
- Assist Burlington with creating a joint use agreement with the school system (ABSS)

Other Towns:

- Historically, the Cities of Burlington, Graham, Mebane, Haw River and Elon have served both municipal residents and those living in Alamance County. Through the planning period, it will be increasingly more difficult to follow this trend. It is anticipated that the towns will not be in a financial position to offer recreation programs and park facilities for a large population of citizens living in the county
- Similar to Burlington they will continue to support recreation by providing local funding

- The communities should concentrate on providing neighborhood parks, community parks, and special facilities.
- Expand sites where possible for use primarily by their local residents
- Cooperate on possible joint ventures with Burlington and the County (for park sites & programs)
- Until other small communities in the area provide recreation, departments and/or services of their own they will need to seek funds made available through grant programs. Most grant programs offer assistance geared to smaller communities and associations for funding park and recreation projects based on need and local commitment (NC- PARTF LWCF etc.)

Schools

- Become a formal partner in providing recreation by entering into a joint use agreement with the department (currently done at selected sites)
- Look at developing facilities jointly with the department.
- Private schools might be a source of future partners for development of facilities
- Quasi-Public Sector
- The development of many facilities in the area is due in part to the strong support that came from the quasi-public sector. Through the years, quasi-public organizations in Burlington and Alamance have provided or supported vital recreational activities in the community.
- Quasi-public organizations such as the recreation associations, Optimist, Rotary, Jaycees, Civitans, and churches have a unique role of complementing the programs and facilities in the area.
- It will be important for the quasi-public sector to maintain its strong supporting role in providing recreation facilities and programs through the planning period. Coordination of new facilities should occur between the quasi-public sector, the City, and the County to avoid duplication of facilities

State & Federal:

- The state will continue to be a major provider of Regional Parks and continue to offer a variety of recreational facilities and programs on a multi-county regional basis. These are typically associated with regional State Parks and Resource management sites such as NC Zoo, Eno River, Haw River, Jordan Lake, William B Umstead, and Falls Lake.
- The State should financially assist the City with acquiring land for parks, developing new parks, and renovating existing parks through the North Carolina PARTF grant program or any other grant programs overseen by the state such as TEA21, CDBG, Clean Water Management Trust Fund, NCDOT-Bikeways Program, or NCDOT-Enhancement Project Funding.
- The federal government is charged with the protection, preservation, conservation, and management of public lands that are deemed appropriate and necessary for all the United States. The U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and U.S. Department of Interior all manage lands in central North Carolina that are used for recreational activities. The federal government will continue to provide facilities such as Uwharrie National Forest and Guilford Courthouse National Military site.

Private Sector

- Developers need to be responsible for dedicating open space and parkland through the development process. (impact fees, dedication requirements, or funding in lieu of dedication)
- Provide commercial for profit recreation where/when public sector cannot
- Find ways to partner on providing recreation
- Support the public sector through gifts and donations
- Developers need to be responsible for dedicating open space and parkland through the development process as prescribed by the Code of Ordinances. Subdivision or platting controls under the City's

current ordinance allow city council to require the reservation of recreation areas and school sites, as a condition precedent to the approval of a plat. The condition is subject to a two-year limitation for future acquisition by purchase or condemnation by a governmental unit or agency. This allows BRPD to review development plans for coordination with the objectives of this Master Plan and possibly determining how sites might be dedicated and/or accepted.

Partnership Opportunities

The Parks and Recreation Department has some existing partnerships in place with various entities in the community to provide special events, arts programs, and some facilities. It is the recommendation of the master plan to create even more partnerships between other government agencies and the non-profit sector in Burlington. The master plan will need the support of the entire community and increased use of partnerships will create more options for both partners, extend the delivery of services to more people in Burlington, and develop equitable opportunities to extend City funding beyond their current levels.

Partnership Issues

- A partnership agreement is essential to demonstrate the commitment of each party and identify the resources each party will contribute to the community. Regardless of which party (or combination) contributes acquisition, development, operational, maintenance, replacement or other resources, tracking these contributions to strive for a 50% - 50% cost sharing between partners over the life of the project is the goal.
- Negotiations for these contributions should focus on demonstrating the advantages and disadvantages of each partner's participation. Key issues to be incorporated into the agreement are included in the Appendix.
Refer to, Appendix - "Partnership Model". It provides an outline of pertinent issues and a process to follow when structuring a partnership agreement

Immediate Partnership Considerations

All types of partnerships can be formed with local public, quasi-public, or private entities. The City of Burlington has potential partnership opportunities in the following areas:

- School partnerships
- Neighborhood partnerships
- Church partnerships
- Non-for-profit program development
- Private sector partnerships
- Private sector service contracts
- Hospital partnerships
- Trail partnerships
- Alamance County partnership

Partnerships identified in the focus group meetings included the following:

- Athletic Associations + Convention & Visitors Bureau(CVB)/Sports Development Council
- Alamance Arts Council
- Burlington Downtown Corp
- Healthy Alamance
- City Stormwater Division
- Alamance County Recreation & Parks (ACRPD)
- Alamance New Leaf Society
- Alamance-Burlington School System
- Glencoe Mill Village redevelopment organization and partners

Park Proposals and Recommendations

As previously stated, the city of Burlington should focus on developing, and operating community, neighborhood and special use parks, along with greenways and open space protection. "Community Needs Assessment of Recreation and Facilities" identified the existing and future parks needed in the

city. It is recommended that by the year 2022 Burlington make provisions for the following new/additional major park facilities:

- (1) Community park
- (2) Neighborhood parks
- (1) Nature Center-Environmental Education Center
- (1) Recreation center/gym
- (5-6) Miles of greenways/urban trails/paths
- (8+) Mini park facilities,

An overall summary of the park proposals and recommendations can be found below. Costs for the proposals are provided in Table 5-1 “Capital Improvement/Development Program” and they are presented graphically on the “Master Plan Proposals Map” (Exhibit–2). *Both documents are attached to the end of this Executive Summary report.*

- The sites have been located to best serve the planning area. Regardless of the sites identified in the plan, the City should be prepared to adjust and adapt locations based on market conditions and availability of land. In order to be cost efficient the Department must act quickly to secure land as soon as it becomes available. This may require that parks or facilities be sited in different locations than originally proposed. The Department will then have to analyze the overall suitability of the new site or facility to determine if its development capabilities or use can overcome its location.
- Additionally, the Department must also analyze how a new facility will affect the need for existing facilities. The worst-case scenario is for the Department to be forced to close, sell, or otherwise dispose of existing sites in order to provide better service and facilities. Use of a land trust or parks foundation would help these efforts.

REGIONAL PARKS

- Existing parks within the area provide sufficient land and facilities (Eno River, Haw River and William B. Umstead State Parks, Uwharrie National Forest, NC Zoo, Jordan Lake, Falls Lake and Duke Forest)
- Renovations under the NC state park system should improve service.
- Locally, the City must support initiatives for funding state parks and programs such as PARTF.
- Collaborate with State and Federal Agencies and Land Holders on development of potential regional projects such as trails and heritage sites. Especially projects such as the Mountains to Sea Trail along the Haw River and a push for new state facility associated with ±1100 acres in southwest Alamance.
- Support efforts for open space preservation and conservation within the Region. Examples are the Piedmont Triad Regional Open Space Strategy, Piedmont Land Conservancy and Haw River Assembly activities for water shed protection, farmland preservation, heritage site preservation and efforts to create a new State facility in the area. (Alamance is ahead of some places because of local trail work for the Haw River)

DISTRICT PARKS

- In accordance with the recreation standards, Burlington’s share (access to) of District Park land by 2022 is 291-acres or 1-2 park sites. Currently Alamance County offers District Park sites at, Cedarrock Park, Haw River Trail, Glencoe, and Shallow Ford.
- Existing sites provided by the County offer adequate coverage and their master plan proposes two (2) more parks for the planning period. Improvements at Cedarrock Park and the other sites will provide open space and facilities to meet the needs of the area throughout the planning period.
- Some City facilities also provide recreational activities typically associated with district parks. Examples are the water access sites at Lake Mackintosh, Lake Cammack, and City Lake.

- Ideally, district parks should connect to other recreational sites in the area by a greenway trail, bike paths, or other alternative transportation. The parks should also preserve natural open space and can provide active facilities such as sports fields and courts. Facilities to consider include a day-use picnic area, play areas, open play fields, sports fields and courts, camping facilities, an educational/instruction center, preserved vegetation areas with trails and walks, and water/lake access.

COMMUNITY PARKS

- Community parks provide space for active recreation such as sports fields, possible future indoor facilities/courts and special uses.
- The standards indicate a total 284 acres of community parkland be available to Burlington by 2022.
- Taking into account existing park acreage the need for 2022 is an additional 114 acres of Community parkland or 1-2 Park Sites. A single new site is proposed along with acquiring adjacent acreage at existing sites.
- Regardless of the following suggested improvements, site master plan updates should be prepared for any major park improvement or renovation and the public should be involved with the development process.

Existing Community Park Recommendations

- City Park –
 - Develop a revised site master plan to best utilize the softball/baseball fields and better connect uses at the park.
 - Make picnic facility enhancements, and play equipment upgrades
 - Improve trail/walk connections between park facilities and walks on City streets that connect to Downtown and surrounding neighborhoods.
 - Reorganize the sports fields to accommodate more activities (multi-purpose fields etc.)
- Davidson - Acquire adjacent property for expansion of sports fields
- Fairchild – improve parking areas and BMX area, Replace/repair walking trails, field lighting, play equipment and park amenities to make more appealing
- North Park – improve parking areas fix AC at center and upgrade site amenities to make more appealing.

Proposed Community Park(s)

- Locate a new park south of I 40 in the general area of the airport (possible at old landfill property)
- Acquire adjacent property for expansion at Davidson and Springwood to improve “community facility offerings”

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- The standards indicate that 58 acres of community parkland be available by 2022. Existing Neighborhood parks provide ±38 acres leaving a need of 20 acres or 2-3 sites.
- New Neighborhood parks should be approximately five (5) acres minimum, to provide a balance between active and passive uses.
- Upon reviewing the need for neighborhood park facilities with the Advisory Team, two (2) sites are proposed for the planning period. The general locations for proposed park sites are listed below under Proposed Neighborhood Parks.

Existing Neighborhood Park Recommendations:

- Burlington currently provides six (6) neighborhood park sites of varied size and character. All existing sites will require improvements and renovations to accommodate and enhance future use.

Existing sites include Elmira, Forest Hills, Northwest, Robinson, Southern Neighborhood, and Willowbrook.

- Most neighborhood park improvements are associated with developing, multi-purpose courts, making field improvements, renovating picnic facilities/shelters and restrooms, and replacing play equipment when it's outdated or in disrepair

Proposed Neighborhood Park Facilities

- Park sites have been located to serve the City best. Each proposed site should have a site-specific master plan prepared for its development and local neighborhood users should be included in the planning process. Where feasible, the parks should be linked to other parks and recreation areas by sidewalks and greenways/trails.
- The following list identifies the general locations of the two (2) proposed neighborhood parks:
 - **Site N-1** — West Burlington
 - **Site N-2** — Southwest Burlington toward Lake Mackintosh (Highland Elem. area)

MINI-PARKS

- Standards indicate 15 acres be available by 2022. Based on existing inventory this creates a need for 8 acres or 8-16 sites (provide areas for tot-lots/play areas, table/seating areas etc.)
- This master plan does not locate specific sites and does not recommend purchasing land for this type of park. The most likely type of development or improvement is to offer new site amenities
- The Department should be open to using sites from all types of sources. Examples might include property currently owned by the City; property made available through the development process, and sites developed by other groups or organizations that tie into community development projects.
- Use existing undeveloped City property and/or partner with other public providers to attain or get access to sites (library, school, utility, etc.). Piggy backing with other public improvement projects is a common practice for providing mini-park facilities and can easily benefit projects such as building renovations, sidewalk extensions, intersection improvements, and landscape/streetscape projects,
- Collaborate with neighborhood groups like Burlington Downtown Corp. (BDC) to get space for sites.
- Mini-parks can be .1 to 1-acre in size to provide a setting that meets the needs of a select interest group or neighborhood. As a rule, the facility should be designed to meet the needs of a specific user group or activity. The most apparent need at BRPD sites is to improve or provide site furnishings (tables, seating, play areas, shade structures etc.)

Facility Recommendations

SPECIAL FACILITIES

Springwood Park

- Acquire adjacent land for expansion of sports fields for practice and games (minimum 4 additional multi-purpose fields for soccer/LX/football and 2-4 baseball/softball fields)
- Field Drainage improvements at existing soccer field (large multi-purpose playing platforms)

Recreation Centers and Gyms and/or Special Venues

Recreation Centers are multi-purpose facilities serving a variety of needs such as sports programming, cultural and art programs, senior activities, day camps, and special events. Burlington currently has community facilities at City Park, and gyms at a Broad Street and Fairchild. Fitness and health facilities at Fairchild and Kernodle Sr. Center assist with providing amenities found at full-scale centers however, neither would be characterized as a full-scale center. Providing a

recreation center/gym to the west side of the city will help meet this need. When developing the west-side center all new building improvements or renovations to existing space should incorporate design elements that provide an appealing environment for users. Spaces should be open and well lighted to provide a positive image for the department and the community. The recreation center must be designed to accommodate multiple functions simultaneously to minimize disturbances between programs and activities.

- NEW Recreation Center with a gym or other creative indoor recreation opportunities:
Locate the facility to the west side of the City ($\pm 30,000$ sf). It can possibly use an existing site that can meet the space requirements needed for a gym, and associated center spaces such as meeting space, craft or workout areas, and classroom/instruction space.
- Fairchild Center : needs updated and gym needs AC repairs
- Mayco Bigelow: will require general renovations (currently has some AC issues)
- Broad Street Gym: needs evaluated for warranted future renovations

Arts & Education (theater, gallery, meeting space),

- Paramount Theater and Depot Arts Center —Support the Downtown Master Plan proposals for expansion of facilities at the Paramount and Depot
- NEW Nature Center-Environmental Education Center —Develop at Glencoe Mill and Museum site or in cooperation with the County and other agencies. —5,000 -10,000 SF facility for outdoor/environmental programs and local/community uses
 - The facility can be phased (1st Phase should be min 5,000 SF building)
 - An important aspect of this improvement will be for BRPD to provide personnel and programing expertise that can move the project forward.

Special Park Sites & Pools

- City Park Update Master Plan and City Park Amusements & Dog Park Improvements – develop the park amenities as proposed in the Master Plan for the site. The city has already developed phases of the park on a “Pay As You Go” basis (Sr. Center & Aquatics Center, Tennis Facility). As brought forward during public input, reviewing the potential re-use of under-utilized space/fields at the park could help provide more fields for “other users”. The master plan for the park should be re-evaluated. The process will identify more specifically how the community wants to use the space and provide a long-term guide for the future.
- City Park Amusements – Arguably, the most important attribute of the park, the amusements provide a large amount of revenue for the system. Maintaining and improving these amenities will be needed throughout the planning period and beyond. This plan endorses funding necessary improvements thru the planning period and recommends that as part of a park master plan the amusement area be evaluated separately.
 - Will require general renovations and maintenance repairs such as new ticketing/concession facility and picnicking space.
 - Might want to add additional interactive art/play items and another ride/attraction
- Dog Park Improvements—make potential upgrades for expansion at City park or provide another dog park at another park site.
- Burlington Tennis Center Facility — explore enclosing part of the center to allow year-round improve inclement weather use. Upgrade, improve and maintain the playing surface and site furnishings as needed.
- Maynard Aquatic Center — will require general renovations and maintenance repairs. Maintaining this facility through the planning period is essential because it is the only true aquatics

facility in the area. The plan supports funding improvements necessary to keep the facility viable and useful. The City should review permanently enclosing the pool and creating an outdoor facility within the redesign of City Park. This should include a splash pad or other interactive water play facility. .

- North Park Pool —will require general renovations and maintenance repairs.
- Camp Greenleaves-pool — will require general renovations and maintenance repairs (renovating the residence and restroom facilities and adding a shelter).

GREENWAY/BIKEWAY

- Develop as many pedestrian walkway improvements identified in the City’s Pedestrian Master Plan that connect to existing parks.
- This Master Plan proposes a minimum of 5-6 miles be developed by the end of the planning period (*Note: the Haw River Plan will provide approximately 8 miles along the City’s border*).
- Use TEA-21, NC-Trail Fund, and Bikeway Funds available through NCDOT. Possibly can be done in cooperation with Clean Water Fund, sewer expansions, and FEMA monies.
- Additional connections should be entertained to link use-areas or sites such as schools, shopping, parks, natural features and other recreation sites.
- A general location for the greenway is along the Haw River. Connections to City pedestrian ways are proposed along major routes as shown on the master plan map.

Priorities for Development

The most commonly mentioned facility needs at the focus group meetings were as follows. These items along with staff input provided direction for prioritizing the proposed recommendations as presented in the previous shown on the Capital Development Program (Table 5-1):

- Provide a gym/ recreation center on the west side of the City, (preferably located west of Alamance Rd./NC62 and north of I-40).
- Improve and build upon our existing sites (Take care of what we have).
- Expand Community park facilities at Davidson Park and Springwood Park where adjacent property might be available. (Additionally, this plan identifies a new Community Park site).
- Nature Center/ Environmental Education / Museum site is needed for the area (tie in with County plans at NC site or Glencoe Mill).
- Springwood fields need drainage improvements to make them more payable. This along with adding fields would allow for practice and game facilities that can be rotated to keep fields in top condition.
- Connect pedestrian walks to parks and other use areas. Connect walk improvements from the City’s Pedestrian Master Plan with access points of proposed Haw River Trail.
- City Park baseball/softball fields appear underused. Re-design or reevaluate the City Park master plan to optimize use of available space and meet current user needs/wants (possibly multipurpose fields for LX, soccer, football etc.)
- Improve and expand downtown space for Arts & Entertainment at the Paramount Theater & Depot — Improve and expand indoor and outdoor space for rehearsal, performance, gallery, reception/meeting and set construction/storage. The Burlington Downtown Plan has already identified a framework for expansion.
- Improve disabled access at parks and programs. Inclusive design for sites is best and there is a need for expanded special population programming. All playgrounds should be “accessible”.
- Fairchild Park needs improvements at the center, the ball field and the BMX tack.

Proposals have been noted below for the planning period years 2013 thru 2022. The prioritization was influenced by the evaluation of existing facilities; the community needs assessment; and the financial ability of the city to implement the overall capital improvement plan. Projects are grouped into three (3) periods, Year 2013 thru 2017, Year 2018 thru 2022, and Beyond 2022. A separate heading “Special Projects/Facilities” identifies projects that will only be developed with special funding such as grants, gifts, partnerships, and donations. Table 5-1, “Capital Development Program” reflects these priorities and shows cost for the proposals.

Year 2013 thru 2017

- Acquire property and complete the Westside Gym/Recreation Center
- Acquire property for a new Community Park(C1) and Expansions at Springwood and Davidson
- Acquire property for Neighborhood Parks (N1 & N2)
- Develop & Complete Neighborhood Park (N2-Site, toward Lake Mackintosh)
- Plan/Design — City Park field layout review & master plan update
- City Park Improvements & Development— 1st Phase
- City Park Amusement Development —1st Phase
- Fairchild Park Improvements — 1st Phase
- Acquire property for North Park projects
- Existing Neighborhood Parks improvements (sites TBD as needed)
- Improve drainage at Springwood fields
- Broad Street Gym Improvements
- Kernodle Sr. Center Improvements — 1st Phase
- Paramount Theatre Improvements — 1st Phase
- Burlington Tennis Center Improvements — 1st Phase
- Maynard Aquatic Center improvements — 1st Phase
- Camp Green Leaves Improvements
- Lakes/Marinas/Golf and Department CIP vehicle and equipment replacements
- Plan/Design — Gym/Rec center
- Mini Park facilities (locations TBD as needed)
- Greenway & Pedestrian Connections — 1st Phase
- Plan/Design — Environmental Ed. Center (only with special funding or foundation & county support)

Year 2018 thru 2022

- Develop & Complete Community Park (C1 site -Near Airport)
- Develop & Complete Neighborhood Park (N1 site-West Burlington near Smith Elem.)
- City Park Improvements & Development — 2nd Phase
- City Park Amusement Development — 2nd Phase
- Davison Park Expansion Improvements
- Fairchild Park Improvements — 2nd Phase
- North Park Improvements — 2nd Phase
- Existing Neighborhood Parks improvements (sites TBD as needed)
- Springwood Expansion Development — 2nd Phase
- Kernodle Sr. Center Improvements — 2nd Phase
- Paramount Theatre Improvements — 2nd Phase
- Burlington Tennis Center – Court Enclosure Improvements — 2nd Phase
- Maynard Aquatic Center improvements — 2nd Phase
- Lakes/Marinas/Golf and Department CIP vehicle and equipment replacements
- Mini Park facilities (locations TBD as needed)
- Greenway & Pedestrian Connections — 2nd Phase

Beyond 2022

- City Park Master Plan Improvements
- Davidson Park Expansion Improvements
- Fairchild Park Improvements
- North Park Improvements
- Existing Neighborhood Parks improvements (sites TBD as needed)
- Springwood Expansion Development
- City Park Amusement Development
- Paramount Theatre Improvements
- Mini Park facilities (locations TBD as needed)
- Greenway & Pedestrian Connections

Special Projects/Facilities (implemented only w/special funding/support)

- Continued Greenway Development (links
- Develop Nature Center/Environmental Education Center

Action Plan Implementation

The Action Plan Implementation is designed to provide a framework or strategy for the City to follow the proposals and recommendations and enhance its parks and recreation system. The action plan is formatted to coincide with the City's 5-year CIP process. Capital development projects for the planning period have been identified for two 5 year periods; 2013-2017 (FY13 to FY17), and 2018-2022 (FY18-2022). A third period is designated "Beyond 2022", and separate heading includes Special Projects/Facilities for projects that will only be developed with special funding such as grants, gifts, partnerships, and donations. This approach is designed to give Burlington a realistic approach to financing the proposals and recommendations of the Master Plan. Additionally, the City's Planning Division can use this plan as a guide for identifying needed recreational land when addressing future development strategies.

Capital Development Program

The capital development program for the acquisition, renovation, improvement, and development of parks for the planning period was prepared with input from City staff and the planning team. All of the proposed costs are in 2012-dollar values. Table 5-1 "Capital Development Program" shows the capital improvement costs through the year 2022 and beyond as describe above. *(Table 5-1 is attached at the end of this Executive Summary.)*

- The Capital Development Program is summarized below into the following components
(the total values include potential costs for planning, administration, management, and design)

Summary of Capital Development Cost

PLANNING PERIOD COSTS (2013-22 other than Special Projects)	
- Existing Parks/Facilities (Renovations Improvements)	\$11,042,100
- New Parks/Facilities (Acquisition and Development)	\$10,945,000
Capital Improvements through 2022 (Only for the Planning Period does not include Special Projects)	\$21,987,100
Capital Improvements Beyond 2022 (does not include Special Projects)	\$3,850,000
Total Capital Improvements (does not include Special Projects)	\$25,837,100

SPECIAL PROJECTS/ FACILITIES ("Special Funding/Support—"Pay as you go items")	\$4,000,000
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** All costs are in Current (2012) dollars*

Additionally, Table 5-1 "Capital Development Program" reflects the proposals and recommendations as outlined in this Master Plan Update. Please note that some cost have been extended beyond the year 2022 to account for financing and development that might beyond the planning period.

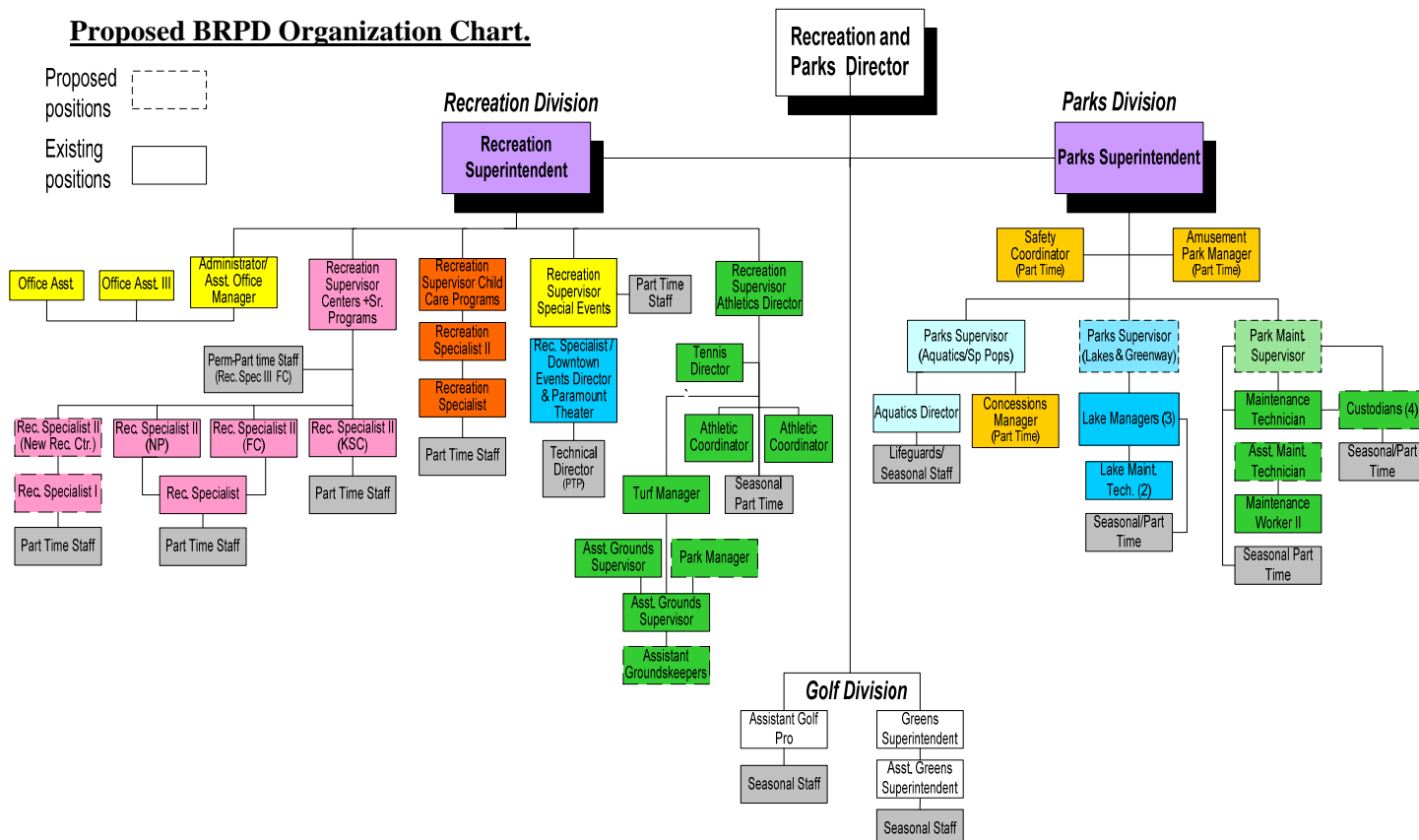
Key Sources of Capital Funding:

- General Fund Allocations
- General Obligation Bonds
- Limited Option or Special Use Tax
- Revenue Bonds
- Park Foundation
- General Foundations
- Federal and State Assistance
- Payments In Lieu of Dedication
- Grants/Contributions and Partnerships

Staff Needs

- The Burlington Park and Recreation Department's structure and number of personnel appear to be consistent with other similar size municipal departments in the state.
- The proposed park facilities and the associated programming that will occur at these sites will need staff to accomplish their mission and purpose.
- There are new positions identified in the “Proposed Organizational Chart” for the planning period. All of the positions (7) fit into classifications that exist in the current structure of the department:
 - **Existing Position additions include:**
 - Parks Supervisor (1) – to manage greenway development, coordinates implementation of a Nature/Environmental Center and provides oversight on lake and marinas operations.
 - Parks Maintenance Supervisor (1) – to oversee and coordinate all operations and maintenance staff
 - Recreation Specialist I & II, (2) – two positions, one of each class to accommodate the proposed West-side Recreation Center. Additionally, change a part time position to permanent for Fairchild/NP.
 - Park/Facility Manager (1) – equivalent to a Rec Sp. III to accommodate proposed additional and expanded sites such as the new community park, new neighborhood parks and expansion of Davidson and Springwood.
 - Maintenance Technicians / Groundskeepers / Custodians – Three (3) positions, two groundskeepers and a custodian to accommodate new and expanded facilities such as expansion at Springwood and Davidson parks, a new community park, new neighborhood parks, and a new recreation center.

Proposed BRPD Organization Chart.



Operating Budgets

- Proposed operating budgets for facilities identified in the master plan should include costs for staffing, operations, and general maintenance. Operation budgets from previous plans and various recreation departments from around the state were used in support of the following information. The exact operating cost will be dependent on the final design of each site on a case-by-case scenario. However, general ranges for Annual Operating Cost are provided below for the type of facilities recommended in the plan.
- Special Use Facilities, as recommended in the Master Plan that can generate considerable revenues. The table below identifies potential recovery costs for facilities proposed in the plan. National trends for cities of similar or larger size demonstrate special facilities of this type can be 100% self-supporting, or in other words, generate revenue to cover 100% of their operating cost.

Summary of Operation and Revenues for Special-Use Facilities

Special-Use Facility	Annual Expenses	Annual Revenues	Cost Recovery
Rec Center (large 40,000 Sf. w/pool)	\$500,000-\$1,000,000	\$250,000-\$600,000	50%-60%
Rec Center (large +40,000 Sf. no pool)	\$400,000-\$800,000	\$160,000-\$400,000	40%-50%
Rec Center (small 20,000 Sf.)	\$50,000-\$100,000	\$10,000-\$50,000	20%-30%
Magnet Park (Springwood Park)	\$400,000-\$1,000,000	\$200,000-\$500,000	50%-60%
Pool Complex	\$40,000-\$100,000	\$20,000-\$50,000	50%
Sports Complex (8 fields min. w/support amenities)	\$400,000-\$600,000	\$240,000-\$360,000	60%
Total	\$1,790,000-3,600,000	\$890,000-\$1,960,000	49% - 54%

Earned Income Opportunities and Key Funding Opportunities

The City of Burlington has a good history of developing earned income opportunities to supplement the Departments operating budget. Even though funds are directly returned to the general fund, the Department has averaged returning 30%-40% on the total budget over the past few years or approximately \$2.0 -\$2.5 million annually. However, the existing funding sources will not be able to keep up with the expanded operations and additional facilities unless additional dollars become available through a combination of sources. To help Burlington evaluate their options; a listing of earned income and funding sources are provided below.

Revenue Plan

Upon adoption of the Master Plan, the City needs to continue with establishing a revenue plan. A revenue plan incorporates all available funding resources in a community, prioritizes them, and puts each option into a funding strategy. In a revenue plan, the following funding alternatives are evaluated for their appropriate use in funding capital improvements and programs.

- General Tax Revenues** - General tax revenues traditionally provide the principle sources of funds for general operations and maintenance of a municipal recreation and park system. Based on FY12/13

and FY11/12 property valuation figures, a 1¢ increase in the current property tax rate (.58/\$100) would generate approximately \$4.1-million over the 10-year planning period.

- **Fees and Charges** - There are three different types of consumptive services provided by parks and recreation agencies that must be identified and priced accordingly. A public service is a service that has high public benefit (equal benefit to everyone), should be free, and supported by taxes. The second type of service is a merit service, which provides some public benefit. The person receiving the service benefits more from the service than a general taxpayer, and should pay an equitable share of the cost to receive the service. The third type of service is a private benefit service. This type of service benefits the user totally and not the general taxpayer. Therefore, the user should pay the total cost to receive the service. The City's current City policies on fees generally conform to this process.

A crucial strategy to accomplish the goals of this plan is to price services based on the value and benefits received by the participants beyond those of all taxpayers. Increasing participation at facilities and programs will increase revenue opportunities. A good time to price services to their value and benefits is after new facilities are constructed or when facilities have been renovated. A revised revenue strategy for user fees/charges does not require a quantum leap to "market value pricing". A slightly enhanced program of increasing fees based on renovated or new facilities will create more capacity opportunities and revenues for the growing population of the City.

- **Revenue Bonds** - Revenue bonds have become a popular funding method for financing high use specialty facilities like golf courses, aquatic centers, ice rinks, tennis centers, and athletic complexes for softball and soccer.
- **Limited Option or Special Use Tax** - Limited option or special use taxes can be established in various ways. A municipality can establish the tax by determining the source such as property valuation, real estate transfer taxes, or sales tax. A local governing body can approve a tax that is identified or earmarked from property valuation without legislative action; however, other sources may require state approval. The proposal will require legislative approval if it is structured on sales tax or tax transfers earmarked for a project need. The idea behind a special the tax is that the tax is identified or limited for a *special purpose* or *project(s)* and the duration can also be limited to the accomplish the proposed project.
- **Parks Foundation** – A Burlington Parks foundation can assist the City in acquiring land, developing facilities, sponsoring programs, and buying equipment for the Department through membership dues, individual gifts, grants, long-term endowments, or trusts (land or estate).
- **General Foundations** - Foundation funds should be sought for both development and construction of facilities as well as providing programs. They should include general-purpose foundations that have relatively few restrictions, special program foundations for specific activities, and corporate foundations with few limitations, typically from local sources. (refer to those listed in Section-5 of the 2000 plan)
- **Federal/State Assistance** - Federal funding sources necessary to help finance the Master Plan have historically been available from the U.S. Park Service's Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Funds distributed by LWCF to the states for local program financing has been severely minimized the past few years but it may return to former levels depending on legislative approval. Potential funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant Program is also available given certain conditions. State funding is available from the NC-PARTF Grant Program.

Alternative Funding / Revenue Sources

The following information identifies examples of alternative funding sources. The City should evaluate the sources when preparing a revenue plan for implementing the master plan recommendations.

- Hospitality Tax
- Capital Projects Sales Tax
- Corporate Sponsorships
- Partnerships
- Foundation/Gifts
- Intermodal Transportation and Efficiency Act (Former ISTEA = TEA21)
- Federal or State Grants
- Recreation Service Fees
- Annual Appropriation/Leasehold Financing
- Interlocal Agreements
- Private Concessionaires
- Land Trust
- Establish a Linear Park / Greenway Utility
- Naming Rights
- Cell Towers
- Private Developers
- Licensing Rights
- Capital Improvement Fees
- Merchandising Sales
- Concession Management
- Friends Associations / "Friends of the Park"
- Advertising Sales
- Easements
- Irrevocable Remainder Trusts
- Life Estates
- Permits (Special Use Permits)
- Catering Permits and Service

Table 2-1 City of Burlington Recreation and Park Facility Inventory

MAP #	NAME	CLASS	LOCATION	SIZE (Ac)	FACILITIES																										
					CENTER & GYM	CENTER NO GYM	GOLF (18-HOLE)	SOCCER	SOFTBALL	BASEBALL	OUTDOOR POOL	INDOOR/ OUTDOOR POOL	TENNIS COURTS	BASKETBALL	VOLLEYBALL	HIKING/NATURE TRAIL	RUN/WALK TRACK	CONCESSION/RESTROOMS	OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATER/GAZEBO	BUILDING RENTALS ENCLOSED	PLAYGROUND	PICNIC AREA	PICNIC SHELTERS OPEN	HORSESHOES	AMUSEMENT RIDES	BICYCLE TRAIL/TRACK	BOATING/CANOEING/KAYAKING	FISHING	PERFORMING ARTS CENTER	OPEN GREENSPACE	OUTDOOR FITNESS EQUIP.
PARK & RECREATION SITES																															
P1	1. Broad Street Gym	Special	215 N. Broad St.	1.5	1								1					1													
P2	2. Stoney Creek	Special	Carolina Rd.	15.0											1																
P3	3. City Park	Special/Community	S. Church St.	76.0				5	2	2		1	12			1	1	4	1	3	1		4		1					1	
P4	4. Davidson Park	Community	3715 Rural Retreat Rd.	42.5				4	2	2			2			1	1			1		2									
P5	5. Depot	Special	Front St.	0.7		1													1	1											
P6	6. Dothan Park	Mini	Graham St.	1.3																1											
P7	7. Elmira	Neighborhood	Wicker St.	5.3		1		1								1				1	1			4							
P8	8. Eva Barker Park	Mini	N. Main St.	1.2																1											
P9	9. Fairchild	Community	827 S. Graham-Hopedale Rd.	30.5	1			2	2	1			2	4	1		1	2		1	2					1				1	
P10	10. Forest Hills	Neighborhood	227 Williamson St.	5.0		1			1	1							1				2										
P11	11. Guilford/Mackintosh Park & Marina	Special	1345 Highway 61Whitsett	60.0										1	1		2			1		1	1		1						
P12	12. Indian Valley Golf Course	Special Golf	1005 Indian Valley Dr.	165.0			1										1			1											
P13	13. Lake Cammack	Special	4790 Union Ridge Rd.	10.0						1				1	1		1			1	2		1								
P14	14. Lake Mackintosh Park & Marina	Special	2704 Huffman Mill Rd.	34.0											1		1			1	1		1								
P15	15. North Park	Community	849 Sharpe Rd.	27.4	1				1	1	1			3			1	1	1	2	3		1							1	
P16	16. Northwest Park	Neighborhood	N. Park Ave.	8.2					1	1				1			1				1										
P17	17. Petersburg Park	Mini	Maple Ave.	0.8										2							1										
P18	18. Robinson Park	Neighborhood	Rauhut St.	4.1										2			1	1			1										
P19	19. Southern Neighborhood Park	Neighborhood	Kilby St.	8.5										1		1															
P20	20. Town & Country Nature Park	Special	Town &Regent Park Ln.	50.0												1									1						
P21	21. Willowbrook Park	Neighborhood	Willowbrook Dr. & Fountain Pl.	6.5												1			1		1		1								
P22	22. Springwood Church Road	Special/Comm/Regional	1450 Springwood Park Church Rd.	78.0				6	4	4							1	4			2		2								
SCHOOLS/QUASI-PUBLIC USE																															
S1	East Lawn Elementary							1																							
S2	Grove Park Elementary							1																							
S3	Harvey R. Newlin Elementary																														
S4	Highland Elementary																														
S5	Hillcrest Elementary							1	1	1																					
S6	Homer R. Andrews Elementary																														
S7	Marvin B. Smith Elementary							1	1	1																					
S8	Broadview Middle																														
S9	Turrentine Middle							1		1																					
S10	Hugh Cummings High School								1	1																					
S11	Walter M Williams High School									1																					
S12	Burlington Day ?							1																							
MISCELLANEOUS/OTHER																															
M1	BMX Bicycle Track		Fairchild Park																												
M2	Burlington Tennis Center		City Park																												
M3	Daphne's Fragrance Garden		Kernodle Senior Activities Center																												
M4	Haw River Trail		Indian Valley & Town & Country																												
M5	Jiggs Askew Dog Park		City Park																												
M6	Kernodle Senior Activities Center		City Park		1															2											
M7	Maynard Aquatic Center		City Park									1																			
M8	Paramount Theater		Downtown Burlington																								1				
M9	Thalaways Youth Center		City Park		1												1			1											
					631.5	3	3	1	19	19	15	2	1	17	13	3	10	8	18	4	13	22	0	13	5	1	3	0	0	0	

Tab 2-2

Burlington Recreation & Parks Department (BRPD) Programs / Events Listing

Special Events-City wide festivals

- 2012 Burlington Carousel Festival,
- Breakfast at Carousel
- Christmas Parade
- Holiday Magic – A Dickens Christmas
- Musical Chairs
- Downtown Spooktacular
- Dark In The Park
- Haunted Train
- Chili Cook off

Cultural Programming (Paramount Theater)

Acting Companies that use the facility

- Teen to Teen Program
- Paramount Acting Company6+
- Gallery Players
- Plaid Players
- Arts Alive
- Studio One
- Alamance County Arts Council
- Alamance Children's Theatre

Nature Programming-Connecting Children with the Outdoors (See below)

Adult Athletic Programs: s

- Spring Softball (mens, womens, coed)
- Fall Softball (mens, womens, coed)
- Adult Soccer
- Golf League
- Basketball
- BMX Racing (multiple divisions)

Senior Programs:

- Heath & Wellness: Fitness programs, exercise room, Sr. Olympics, bocce, golf, tennis, pickle ball, badminton, Tai Chi Chuan etc)
- Education Programs/Classes: history, internet use, computer lab, family history, legal assistance, Facebook
- Travel/Field Trips
- Clubs/Games: bridge, bingo, , table tennis, darts, mahjonn
- Dinner & Lunch Socials

Youth Programs:

- **Afterschool Programs & Fundays**
 - Programs at elementary school sites: Andrews , Grove Park Hillcrest, Newlin
- **Developmentally Disabled Programs**
 - Special Populations Dance, Bingo Night for Special Populations, Structured Activities for Challenged Children (S.A.C.C.), Special Olympics Spring Games, Camp Green Leaves
- **Fun for Little Ones**
 - Toddler Recreation Station
- **Connecting Children with the Outdoors** (Nature Programs for Kids)
 - Current Programs: Boating Safety Courses,Children's Garden at Forest Hills Community Center, Fishing Camp I & II, Hunter Education, Lil' Green Thumbs Natural Area at Thataways, Make A Difference Day Projects, Nature Adventure Camp, Orienteering, Spring Steppers Walking Adventures, Streamside Haw River Watch Monitoring Training

- Future Programs: I'm A Little Green Thumb Workshop, Benefits of Insects and Worms Composting In Your Backyard, Creating Habitats in your Backyard, The Importance of Trees

- **Summer Camps**

Each camp offers a unique and individual camp experience

- Camp Locations: by school attendance (age)
 - Brookwood (5-12) = Brookwood Church
 - Elon (5-12) = Beth Schmidt park
 - Fairchild (5-12) = Fairchild Comm Ctr
 - Frove Park (5-12) = Grove Park Elem School
 - Overbrook I (5-12) = City Park @Homebuilders Building
 - Overbrook II (5-12) = City Park @Thataways Youth Center
 - Forest Hills (3-12) = Forest Hills Community Ctr
 - Explorers (12-14)= City Park @ Jaycee Building
- Summer Time Playground (STP)
 - Elmira Park& Robinson Park
 -

- **Specialty Camps**

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Aces & Deuces Tennis Camp ○ Challenger British Soccer Camp ○ Nature Adventure Camp ○ Beginner Tennis Camp ○ Beginner Paddle Camp ○ Fishing Camp I @ Guilford Mackintosh Park & Marina ○ Horseback Riding Camp | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shake It! Dance Camp ○ Colors For Kids Art Camp ○ Drama Camp ○ Teen to Teen Theatre's Summer Camps ○ Beginner Golf Camp ○ Fishing Camp II @ Lake Cammack |
|---|---|

- **Youth Athletics**

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fall and Spring Soccer ○ Fall & Spring Lacrosse ○ Summer T-ball, Baseball, & Softball ○ Flag Football ○ Officiating | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Winter basketball seasons ○ BMX Racing ○ Swimming and Tennis ○ Coaching and |
|---|--|

- **Thataways Youth Center Programs**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bingo Night for Sp. Pops ○ Burlington Youth Council ○ Country Line & Couples Dancing ○ Family Movie Night ○ Preteen Dances | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Birthday Party Rentals ○ Special Population Dances ○ Thataways Afterschool Program ○ Teen to Teen Theatre ○ Special Weekend Events |
|--|--|

Table 3-1 City of Burlington Park Classification and Land Area Requirements (Standards for the City Burlington)				
Park Type Standard	Acres/1000 Population	Acres	Population Served	Service Area
Regional Park				
National	10	1000	Sev. Communities	1 hr. drive
State	20	1000	Sev. Communities	1 hr. drive
Recommended	10	1000	100,000	50-60 mi. radius
District Park				
National	5-10	200	Sev. Communities	1/2 hr. drive
State	10	200	Sev. Communities	15-20 mi. radius
Recommended	5 (94 plan) 5 (07 Co-plan)	200+	15-20,000	8-10 mi. radius (7mi radius) Alamance
Community Park				
National	5-8	25+	Several Neighs.	1-2 mile radius
State	8	25+	20,000	1-3 mile radius
Recommended	7 (94plan)	45-75 (94plan)	5 – 15,000 (10700)	2-3 mile radius
Neighborhood Park				
National	1-2	15+	5,000	¼-½ mile
State	2	6-8	4,000	¼-½ mile
Recommended	1	4 (94plan)	4,000	1 mile
Mini Park				
National	.25	1	Adjacent Neigh.	¼ mile
State	-	-	500-2,500	-
Recommended	.25	.25-1	Adjacent Neigh.	¼-½ mile
Special -Use or Linear Park				
National	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
State	30	Varies	Varies	Varies
Recommended	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies

Table 3-2
City of Burlington
Total Park Sites and Acreage Requirements

PARK TYPE		2010 <i>Population</i> 50,475	2012 51,949	2017 55,033	2022 58,127	Existing	2022 Need
Regional Parks **							
(10 Ac/1000) +1000 Acre Parks	0.01000	505	519	550	581	10,000 +	0
	<i>Sites</i>	1	1	1	1	4	0
District Parks **							
(5 Ac/1000) +/-200 Acre Parks	0.00500	252	260	275	291	671	0
	<i>Sites</i>	1		1	1-2	4	0
Community Parks							
(5.0 Ac/1000) 45-75 Acre Parks (75ac)	0.00500	252	260	275	291	177	114
	<i>Sites</i>	3	3	4	4	4	1-2
Neighborhood Parks							
(1.0 Ac/1000) +/-4-10 Acre Parks (7 ac avg.)	0.00100	50	52	55	58	38	20
	<i>Sites</i>	7	7	8	8	6	2
Mini-Parks							
(.25 Ac/1000) .5 -1.0 Acre Parks (.1 ac avg)	0.00025	13	13	14	15	6	9
	<i>Sites</i>	13	13	14	15	8	8
Special Use Parks							
(no std. Acreage)		Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	n/a
						+17	
Linear Parks / Greenway Trails							
(.4 mile/1000) <i>Miles</i>	0.00040	20	21	22	23	8.0	15
** The acreage shown for Regional & District parks denotes Burlingtons share for this type of park whether provided by municipal, county, state or other governmental body Regional Parks: (4- sites) = Uwharrie National Forest (+50,000 ac.), Morrow Mountain State Park (+4,600 ac.) NC-Zoological Park (+500 ac.), Lake Jordan (+2,500 ac.), District Parks: (3 sites) = Cedarrock Park (+461ac.), Shallows Ford (190 ac.) Great Bend/Glencoe (20 ac) Community Parks: (sites) = City Park (76 ac.), Joe Davidson Park (42.5 ac.) , Fairchild Park (30.5 ac.) , North Park (27.4ac) Neighborhood Parks: (Elmira (5.3 ac.), Forest Hills (5.0 ac.) Northwestern Park (8.2 ac.) , Robinson Park 4.1 ac.), Southern Neighborhood Park (8.5 ac.) Willowbrook Park (6.5 ac.) , Mini-Parks Sites: (-6-sites) Dothan Park, Daphne's Fragrance Garden, Depot sitting space, Downtown/main street seating areas, Eva Barker Park, Petersburg Park Special Use Sites: (-sites) =BMX Bicycle Track (Fairchild), Broad Street Gym , Burlington Tennis Center (City Park), Daphne's Fragrance Garden,(Kemodle Ctr), Jiggs Askew Dog Park (City Park), Lake Cammack Marina, Lake Mackintosh Marina (Burlington), Lake Mackintosh Marina (Guilford) , , Kernodle Senior Activities Center, Mayco Bigelow Center (North Park)Maynard Aquatic Center (City Park), Paramount Theater, Springwood Park(76ac), Stoney Creek Marina, Thataways Youth Center (City Park), Town & Country Nature Park, Linear Parks /Greenways Trails: Haw River Blue Trail (Glencoe/Great Bend), Town & Country, Lake Mackintosh, Lake Cammack, <i>Walking Tracks/paths</i> = CityPark, Davidson, Elmira, Fairchild, Forest Hills, North Park, Note: Acreage shown for Regional & District Parks are based on the population of Burlington and their "share" of access to these type of parks regardless of the provider							

**Table 3-3
City of Burlington
Standards for Public Facilities**

Facility	National Standard/ 1000 pop.	State Standard/ 1000 pop.	Burlington Standard/ 1000 pop.
Play Fields			
Adult Baseball	1/20,000	1/15,000	1/20,000
Baseball/Softball	N/A	N/A	1/5,000
Football/Soccer	1/10,000	1/10,000	1/5,000
Courts			
Basketball	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/ 5,000
Tennis	1/2,000	1/2,000	1/2,000
Volleyball	1/5,000	1/5,000	1/5,000
Racquetball	1/10,000	N/A	1/10,000
Shuffleboard	1/ 2,000	N/A	1/ 5,000
Horseshoe	N/A	N/A	1/ 2,000
Outdoor Areas			
Picnic Tables	1/125	N/A	1/500
Picnic Shelters	1/ 2000	N/A	1/ 5,000
Playground Activities	N/A	1/1,000	1/1,000
Trails			
- Hiking/Nature	1/region	.4 mile/1,000	.4 mile/1,000
- Fitness/Jogging	1/region	.2 mile/1,000	.2 mile/1,000
Tracks	1/ 20,000	1/ 20,000	1/ 20,000
Archery/Shooting Area	1/50,000	1/50,000	1/50,000
Camping	N/A	2.5sites/1,000	2.5sites/1,000
Amphitheater	1/ 20,000	N/A	1/20,000
Specialized			
Recreation Center w/gym	1/25,000	N/A	1/25,000
Recreation Center w/o gym	1/10,000	N/A	1/10,000
Swimming Pool	1/20,000	1/20,000	1/20,000
Competition Pool	1/75,000	N/A	1/75,000
Gymnasiums	1/ 20,000	N/A	1/ 20,000
Auditoriums	1/ 20,000	N/A	1/ 20,000
Golf Course	1/25,000	1/25,000	1/25,000
Bicycling	1 mile/2,000	1 mile/1,000	1 mile/2,000
Canoeing			
- Stream Mileage	N/A	.2 mile/1,000	.2 mile/1,000
- Access points	N/A	1/10 miles	1/10 miles

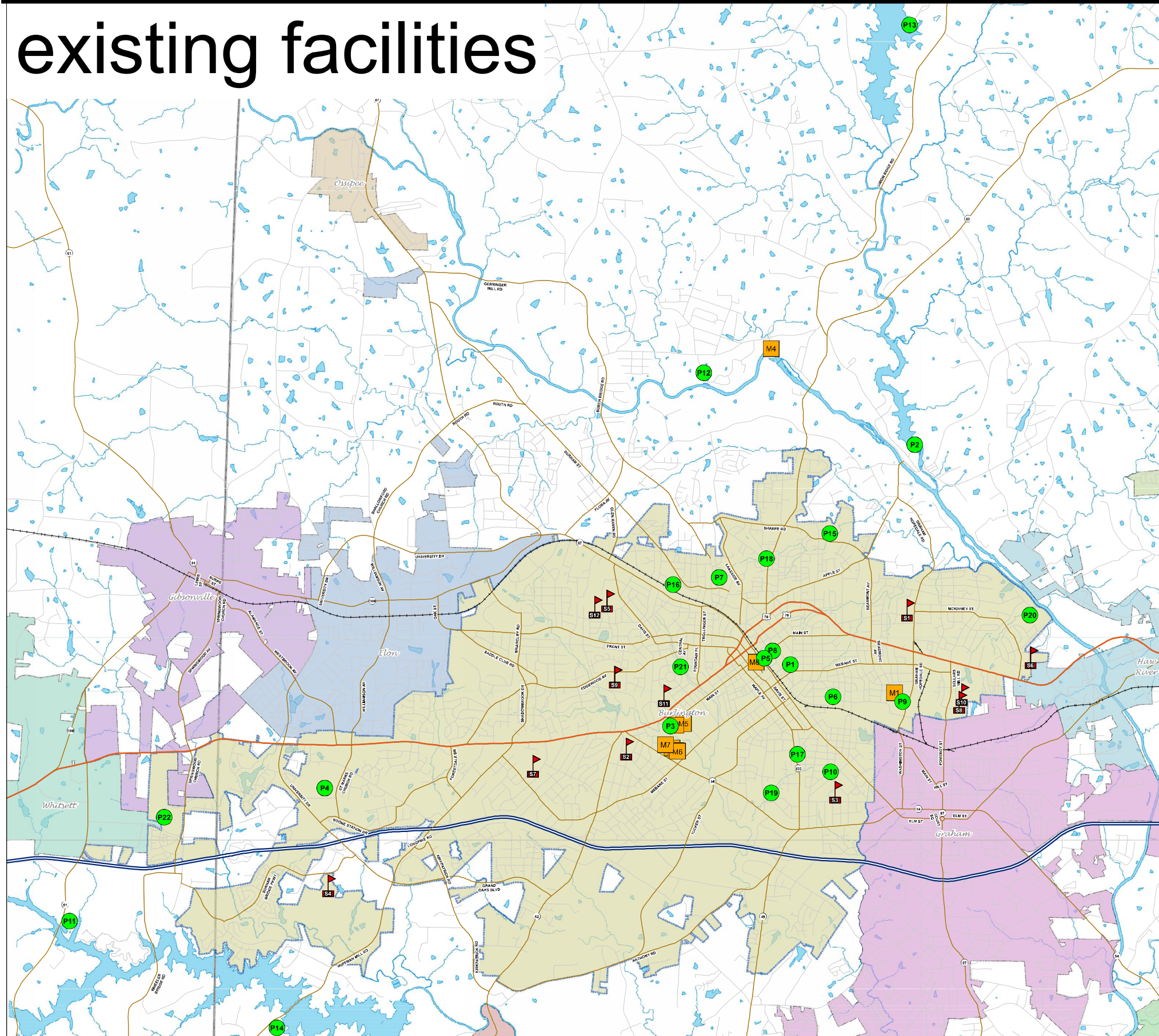
**Table 3-4
City of Burlington
Public Recreation Individual Facilities Needs Analysis**

FACILITY TYPE				YEAR AND POPULATION					
<i>Population</i>				2010 <i>50,475</i>	2012 <i>51,949</i>	2017 <i>55,033</i>	2022 <i>58,127</i>	Existing	2022 Need
Fields									
Adult Baseball (90 ft bases)	1/	25,000		2	2	2	2	3	0
Youth Baseball (<i>stand alone std</i>)	1/	5,000		10	10	11	12	10	2
Softball (<i>stand alone std</i>)	1/	5,000		10	10	11	12	16	0
Baseball/Softball (<i>jt std</i>)	1/	2,500		20	21	22	23	26	0
Football (stand alone)	1/	15,000		3	3	4	4	4	0
Soccer (shared/athletic field)	1/	4,000		13	13	14	15	19	0
Courts									
Basketball (Indoor & Outdoor)	1/	5,000		10	10	11	12	19**	0
Tennis	1/	5,000		10	10	11	12	17***	5
Volleyball	1/	5,000		10	10	11	12	3***	8
Racquetball	1/	10,000		5	5	6	6	0	6
Shuffleboard	1/	10,000		5	5	6	6	0	6
Outdoor Areas									
Picnic Shelters	1/	2,500		20	21	22	23	13	10
Playground Areas	1/	2,000		25	26	28	29	22***	7
Greenway Trails (miles)									
-Walking/Fitness/Jogging	1/	5,000		10	10	11	12	6	6
Tracks (competitions)	1/	20,000		3	3	3	3	6	0
Tracks/ Walking Areas (miles)	1/	5,000		10	10	11	12	6	6
Specialized									
Rec./Community Center w/gym	1/	25,000		2	2	2	2	3	0
Rec. Neighborhood Center w/o g	1/	10,000		5	5	6	6	3	3
Gymnasiums	1/	10,000		5	5	6	6	42	0
Swimming Pool (25m/25yd)	1/	20,000		3	3	3	3	4****	0
Swimming Pool (50m)	1/	75,000		1	1	1	1	1	0
Golf Course	1/	25,000		2	2	2	2	7*****	0
Bicycling route	1/	2,000		25	26	28	29	75	0
Canoeing									
' - Stream Miles	1/	5,000		10	10	11	12	20	0
' - Access points	1/	10		1	1	1	1	2	0
				** Includes middle and high school gym sites					
				*** Does not include school locations/sites					
				**** Includes privately owned facilities open to the public					
				***** Includes privately owned courses open to public play					

WORK SHEET TABLE 5-1 CITY OF BURLINGTON RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM				
Capital Improvement/Acquisition Description	Total Cost Projection	2013-17	2018-22	After FY22
		FY13 - FY17	FY18-FY22	
Renovation/Maintenance EXISTING PARKS/FACILITIES COMMUNITY PARKS City Park (master plan improvements w/o Amusement area) Facility Planning and Design Master Plan Development/Improvements (w/o Amusement Area or Sp. Facilities) Davidson (rehab.& possible expansion) Land Acquisition Facility Planning and Design General Park Improvements (rehab, repair, replace) Fairchild General Park Improvements (lighting, irrigation, play, parking, walks/paths, BMX) Center Improvements & Renovation (flooring, equipment, HVAC, min. site) Park/Stadium support facilities(office, parking, & maint. area etc) North Park (park improvements) Gen.l Park Improvements (land acquisition,rehab, repair,replace, fields, play, parking) Bigelow Center Improvements/Renovation (rehab, repair, replace) NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS (6 sites) Play equipment, picnic facilities, site furnishings etc. (Elmira, Forest Hills, Northwest, Robinson, Southern NHP & Willowbrook) SPECIAL FACILITIES Springwood Park Immediate Field Drainage Improvements Land Acquisition for Park Expansion Park Expanded Facilities City Park Amusements (5yr-CIP+misc improvements/new ride) Broad Street Gym (5yr-CIP+ misc improvements to 2020) Kernodle Senior Center (5yr-CIP+misc imprpvements) Depot Ctr. (5yr-CIP + space expansion) Paramount Theatre and Depot (5yr-CIP + space expansion) Burlington Tennis Center (Tennis Building per 5yr-CIP +misc items to 2020) Maynard Aquatics Center (5yr-CIP+misc items to 2020) North Park Pool (misc CIP items to 2020) Camp Green Leaves (5yr-CIP =shelter+misc items to 2020) Lakes/Marinas (includes equipment from 5 yr CIP designated) Indian Valley (5yr-CIP Equipment replacements) Misc. CIP Equipment/Hardware/Vehicles Buses & Vans for Camps Replace Athletic Maint Equipment/Vehicles (per 5yr CIP) Misc Hadware and funiture/furnishings for improved spaces/admin Planning & Design (Admin, management, permits, fees etc)				
Existing Parks Improvements Total	\$14,287,100	\$4,800,000	\$6,242,100	\$3,245,000
NEW PARKS/FACILITIES COMMUNITY PARKS Site C-1 — Southwest Burlington near Airport (vicinity of Kilpatrick & Anthony) Land Acquisition Development/Construction NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS Site N-1 — West Burlington near Smith Elementary. Land Acquisition Development/Construction Site N-2 — Southwest Burlington toward Lake Mackintosh Land Acquisition Development/Construction SPECIAL FACILITIES Westside Gym/Recreation Center (±30,000sf) Mini Parks (8 proposed sites as collected throughout the city) Greenway/Pedestrian Walks Land Acquisition (35-40 ac. for ±5-6mi of greenway) Trailheads Locations /Trail Connections to Sidewalk Plan Greenway Development ±5-6 mi (implement walks/greenway trails, assist w/county) Planning & Design (Admin, management, permits, fees etc)				
New Parks/Facilities Total	\$11,550,000	\$6,582,500	\$4,362,500	\$605,000
TOTAL PLANNING PERIOD IMPROVEMENTS (2013-2022)	\$21,987,100			
Capital Improvements After 2020	\$3,850,000			
Total Capital Improvements	\$25,837,100			
		FY13-FY17	FY18-FY22	After FY22
SPECIAL PROJECTS/FACILITIES (Developed thru Grants/Sp.Funding) Nature Center/Environmental Education Center Greenway/Haw River Trail Development (link to County trail outside City) Planning & Design (Admin, management, permits, fees etc)				
Special Projects/Facilities Total	\$4,000,000		\$4,000,000	

Proposed costs are presented in 2012 dollar values and makes no allowance for inflation.

existing facilities



LEGEND

Park & Recreation Sites

- P1 Broad Street Gym
- P2 Stoney Creek
- P3 City Park
- P4 Davidson Park
- P5 Depot
- P6 Dothan Park
- P7 Elmira
- P8 Eva Barker Park
- P9 Fairchild Park
- P10 Forest Hills
- P11 Guilford MackIntosh Park & Marina
- P12 Indian Valley Golf Course
- P13 Lake Cammack
- P14 Lake MackIntosh Park & Marina
- P15 North Park
- P16 Northwest Park
- P17 Petersburg Park
- P18 Robinson Park
- P19 Southern Neighborhood Park
- P20 Town & Country Nature Park
- P21 Willowbrook Park
- P22 Springwood Church Road Park

Schools / Quasi Public Use

- S1 East Lawn Elementary
- S2 Grove Park Elementary
- S3 Harvey R. Newlin Elementary
- S4 Highland Elementary
- S5 Hillcrest Elementary
- S6 R. Homer Andrews Elementary
- S7 Marvin B. Smith Elementary
- S8 Broadview Middle
- S9 Turrentine Middle
- S10 Hugh Cumings High School
- S11 Walter M. Williams High School

Miscellaneous / Other

- M1 BMX Bicycle Track
- M2 Burlington Tennis Center
- M3 Daphne's Fragrance Garden
- M4 Haw River Trail
- M5 Jiggs Askew Dog Park
- M6 Kemodle Senior Center
- M7 Maynard Aquatic Center
- M8 Paramount Theatre
- M9 Thataways Youth Center

Municipalities

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| BURLINGTON | OSSIEPE |
| ALAMANCE | SWEPSOINVILLE |
| ELON | WHITSETT |
| GIBSONVILLE | GREEN LEVEL |
| GRAHAM | HAW RIVER |

- Alamance Rivers, Creeks, etc.
- Alamance Lakes, Ponds, etc.
- Alamance County
- Alamance Railroads

Major Roads

- Interstate
- US Highways
- State Highways
- Local Major Roads
- Street Centerlines

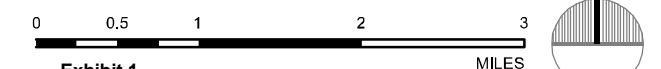
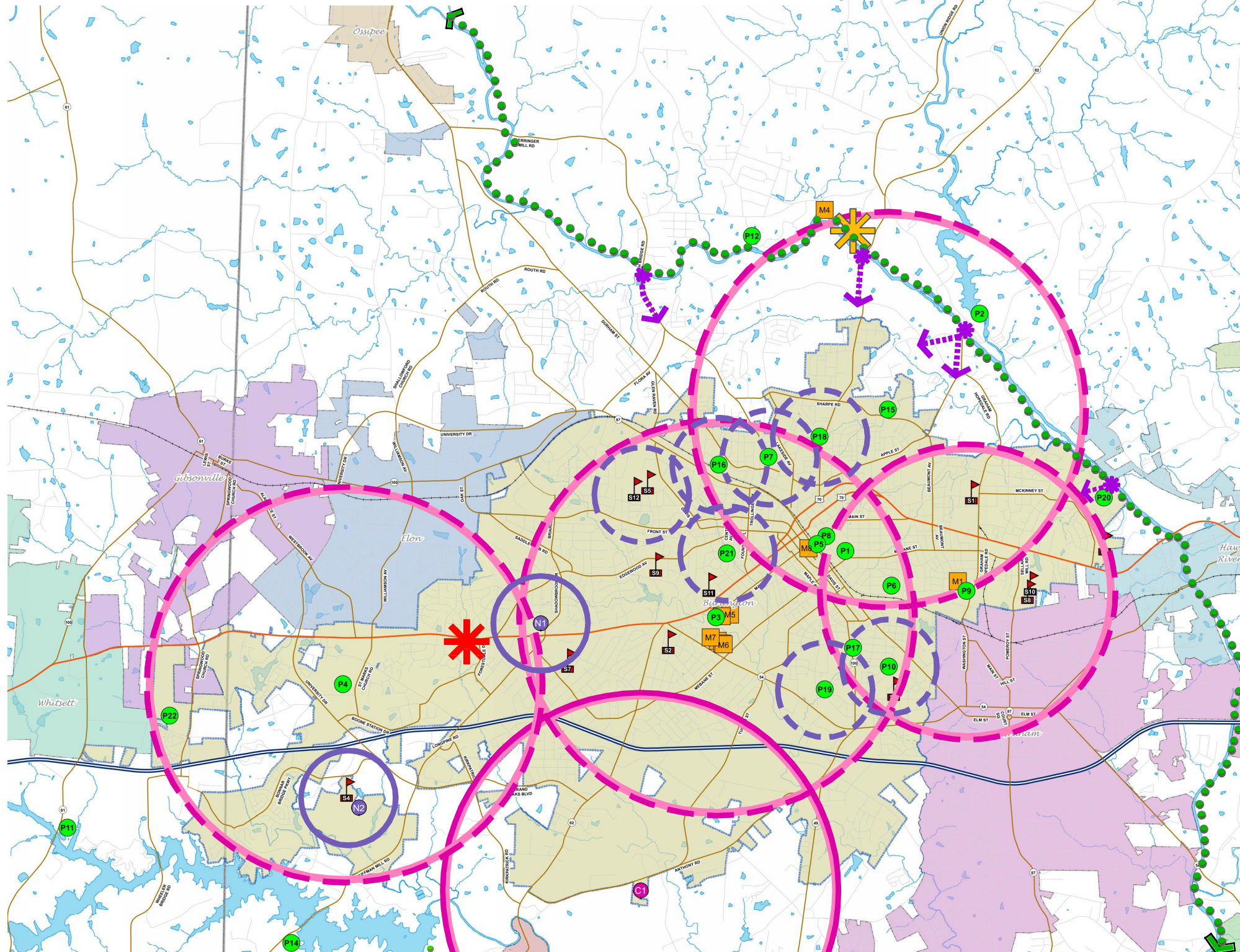


Exhibit 1
Page EX-36

plan proposals thru year 2020



Map Key

COMMUNITY PARKS

- P3 City Park
- P4 Davidson Park
- P9 Fairchild Park
- P15 North Park

PROPOSED COMMUNITY PARK

- C1 Southern Community

MINI PARKS

- P6 Dotham Park
- P8 Eva Barker Park
- P17 Petersburg Park

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- P7 Elmira
- P10 Forest Hills
- P16 Northwest Park
- P18 Robinson Park
- P19 Southern Neighborhood Park
- P21 Willowbrook Park

PROPOSED NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- N1 Western Neighborhood
- N2 Southwest Neighborhood

REGIONAL DRAW with COMMUNITY FACILITIES

(Covers City as Community Park)

- P22 Springwood Church Road

SPECIAL FACILITIES/PARKS

- M1 BMX Bicycle Track (Fairchild Park)
- M2 Burlington Tennis Center (City Park)
- M3 Daphne's Fragrance Garden (Kernode Park)
- M4 Haw River Trail
- M5 Jiggs Askew Dog Park (City Park)
- M6 Kernode Senior Center (City Park)
- M7 Maynard Aquatic Center (City Park)
- M8 Paramount Theatre
- M9 Thataways Youth Center (City Park)
- P1 Broad Street Gym
- P2 Stoney Creek
- P5 Depot
- P11 Guilford/Mackintosh Park & Marina
- P13 Lake Cammack
- P14 Lake Mackintosh Park & Marina
- P20 Town & Country Nature Park
- P12 Indian Valley Golf Course

SCHOOLS/QUASI-PUBLIC USE

- S1 East Lawn Elementary
- S2 Grove Park Elementary
- S3 Henry R. Newlin Elementary
- S6 R. Homer Andrews Elementary
- S8 Broadview Middle
- S9 Turrentine Middle
- S10 Hugh Cumings High School
- S11 Walter M. Williams High School

SCHOOLS USED AS NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- S4 Highland Elementary
- S5 Hillcrest Elementary

Legend

- Proposed West Recreation Center
- Nature/ Environmental Education Center
- Recreation & Parks Facilities
- Special Use Facilities
- Prop. Neighborhood Parks
- Prop. Neighborhood Parks
- Ex. Neighborhood Park (1/2 mile radius)
- Prop. Community Park (2 mile radius)
- Ex. Community Park (2 mile radius) (1-1/2 mile radius - Fairchild Park)
- Prop. Community Park (2 mile radius)
- Prop. Greenway Connection to Pedestrian Plan Walks
- Prop. Greenway Trail

Municipalities

- BURLINGTON
- ALAMANCE
- ELON
- GIBSONVILLE
- GRAHAM
- OSSIEE
- SWEPSONVILLE
- WHITSETT
- GREEN LEVEL
- HAW RIVER
- Alamance County

Major Roads

- Interstate
- US Highways
- State Highways
- Local Major Roads
- Street Centerlines

Miscellaneous Features

- Alamance Rivers, Creeks, etc.
- Alamance Lakes, Ponds, etc.
- Alamance Railroads

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MILES

Exhibit 2
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APPENDIX

- **PARTNERSHIP MODEL — BRPD & SCHOOL SYSTEM**
- **FOCUS GROUP MEETING NOTES/MINUTES
WORKSHOP MEETING NOTES**
- **SURVEY INFORMATION (TABULATED SUMMARY/RESULTS)**

PARTNERSHIP MODEL

The following working partnership model has been outlined for Burlington Recreation & Parks Recreation Department (BPRD) to use as a reference. The example model is the Department /Alamance -Burlington School System.(ABSS)

BRPD (Department) and ABSS (School District) Partnership Model

The Department and the school system decide that they would like to take their partnership program to a new level for the development of joint use facilities to include athletic fields, and other recreational facilities. The plan of action for the partnership agreement would include the following:

1. Jointly share with each other long term land acquisition and facility development plans. This would allow each party to describe their vision for their agency and how it overlays into what each other is doing. This should also include program development plans.
2. From this vision discussion, each party would identify where they see a potential partnership opportunity.
3. If both parties agree that there is the potential for a partnership, then discussion needs to move into more detail matters.
4. Is there a common vision for this to work between both agencies?
5. What are each other's values in relationship to the partnership that needs to be identified and incorporated into the partnership project and agreements?
6. Is there a history between these two agencies that could affect the ability of this vision project to move forward? What needs to be done by each partner to overcome any history? What needs to be done between the two partners to build trust and confidence in the project?
7. Is it possible for each party to meet a 50/50 cost sharing position related to developing the facility, and or program, that benefits Burlington as a whole?
8. What are the ultimate performance measurements that each party will need from the other to commit to the project?
9. Can a working written recital be developed that creates a vision strategy for each party that agrees to the purpose and commitment that each is making to the program or facility?
10. Each party assigns staff to finalize and develop the organizational structure for the partnership. This will include the partner reciprocals agreement; communication reporting process; funding commitments; staffing and personnel commitments; timelines for development; implementation of the program or project; and process for conflict resolution.
11. The assigned staff trains each other on each agencies overall goals, visions, mission statements, and expectations they are hoping to achieve with the partnership.
12. Performance measurements are established for each party that outlines accountability for their commitments without managing them.
13. The school System and Department shares and approves the overall working agreement with each respective board, for adoption and approval.
14. Each party provides working discussion and project meeting dates to discuss expectations, programs and performance measurements.
15. Each party reports progress jointly to each other's management board on the results of the partnership efforts.
16. If a facility development project is established, a project manager for each agency needs to be designated.
17. If a program commitment partnership is established, each partner designates appropriate program coordinators to fulfill the visions of each agency.

Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: May 22, 2012 **Re:** Burlington R&P Master Plan Update

Location: Burlington Kernodle Senior Center **Issue Date:** May 31, 2012

Submitted By: CA/AP **In Attendance:** See attached sign in sheets

Chamber/Business Community

Time/Location = 10:00 AM Kernodle Sr Ctr.

Attendees: See sign-in sheet

1. Sports Development Council (part of B/A Convention & Visitors Bureau) helps with attracting and coordinating sports tourneys and event in Burlington. One item that has been discussed is how they might be able to assist with funding for improvements at the facilities that attract teams
2. Glen Raven has been involved with community activities with New Leaf Society.
3. The New Leaf group assists with beautification/landscape projects in Burlington and sees this continuing. Examples include downtown area, the fountain near City Park, and intersection/street landscapes such as University Drive. They have also been involved with Alamance Arts Council, and the Haw River Trail.
4. New leaf has also assisted R&P on enhancing some entrances & use areas at parks and at downtown areas
5. Alamance Foundation, Alamance/Burlington Schools System (ABSS), Alamance County. Recreation & Parks (ACRPD) and Alamance Art Council are partners that Burlington has worked with in various capacities. These will likely continue into the future but have been more difficult in the past few years since County funds have been reduced for all services they provide.
6. ACRPD has a formalized joint use agreement with ABSS that Burlington should look into for use of school sites. (currently it is informal with each principal or location)
7. See a need for another indoor gym/ rec center because there is not a facility that serves the west side of town.
8. The current gyms need wood floors similar to the school site. (helps keep events/tourneys etc.)
9. A new indoor facility can help with many user groups but especially volleyball and basketball. There is really no space west of City Park. Many west Burlington teams go to Guilford/Greensboro for basketball and some other sports.

10. Might need to look for a private partner for an indoor facility.
11. How can BRPD get involved with ABSS during design of sites to make sure the community can also use the resource? Is it possible thru a Joint-Use Agreement?
12. Service? Still remains the key component to keeping users/participants. The quality of the facility helps but the service is still most critical?
13. The pedestrian plan is important component of providing links to parks, future greenways and trails. This should be coordinated with the Alamance trail plans. Since Burlington will likely not be doing many greenway trails.
14. Can thinking outside the box help make facilities more available? Can we change the Season of Play for some activities?
15. Are Private schools potential partners for an indoor facility? (The potential development of Elon Prep School campus comes to mind)
16. Promote programs focused on WELLNESS that improves overall Quality of Life (in the community and personally).

Arts/Environment/Youth Programming

Time/Location = 11:30 AM Kernodle Sr. Ctr.

Attendees: See sign-in sheet

1. Burlington has a great background in providing programs and could assist and improve nature programs and environmental education. Possibly assist with Nature Center at Glencoe?
2. Burlington could provide a broader range of future Greenway connections. Can tie into the pedestrian plan and connect with the Haw River Trail but also connect other parks and use area in the city
3. Haw River Trail is now a "Blue Line" (water based trail) of 10-35 miles. Burlington can partner not only thru Recreation and Parks but also thru the City Water Resources Dept. Stormwater Management Program.
4. Northeast Burlington seems to be underserved by facilities and programs.
5. Ongoing maintenance at existing facilities need improved. Some facilities need attention. Town & country park parks (2-10 acres) and Greenways/Trails are the most needed types of parks
6. Trails, greenways and environmental opportunities are most needed facilities.
7. Funding for recreation should use a combination of sources such as general fund, bonds, user fees, mandatory dedication etc.
8. The Stormwater program has education and outreach funding that could be used and coordinated with city and county recreation providers. They also implement pilot projects to improve water quality such as using bio-retention cells and stream enhancements. Maybe these types of projects can be implemented at parks and along trails with educational exhibits/signage ("Stormwater Ed. Trail). The Stream Enhancement Project at City Park is an example of the type of project that could be used. (this was a NCDENR "Ecosystem Enhancement Program (EEP) project" that City staff assisted with).
9. The County has some nature programs that are run at Cedarrock and Shallow Ford.

10. The City has expressed interest in assisting with programming at Glencoe for environmental education, natural history and art.
11. The City needs to incorporate "functional Art" common everyday items that operate well and either incorporates art in its design or is a piece of art that has a function. Interactive art is another way to think of these items.
12. The city is working on a "Public Art Policy" to establish guidelines for including it into projects and into public spaces.
13. When the City develops parks the aesthetic are as important as the function of a design. Good Design should be able to accomplish both.
14. Performing space is almost unbearable in the City due to lack of suitable space for rehearsals, set design, prop/set storage etc. Downtown Corp. and Arts council are actively looking to consolidate some space downtown near the Depot and Paramount Theater.
15. The Paramount needs a better marketing program
16. Seems like you need to talk with 5 staff before anything can be accomplished. Duties seem to not be focuses. Sometimes the best resources are not located in our community.
17. A vision for BR&P for the next 10 years is that they open up to new ideas about what they public spaces can be and that public art and the arts in general become a part of their thinking
18. The partnership within Arts organizations and how they fit into recreation could be strengthened.
19. Something R&P can do is help in educating the community about the importance of art in public spaces is.
20. Gateway parks or entrances are something need in the city. An easy way to incorporate art and landscape design (possible partner with New Leaf)
21. Burlington needs consistent basic programs for environmental education and camps. Also for arts and drama
22. Interactive water park/or play space like other towns (Bucks Co. example) have that can attract people downtown and be an economic attraction for businesses. Possibly partner with downtown group for special tax (tax increment financing)
23. Be careful of multipurpose space for the arts that is nothing more than a stage in a gym. (Mebane example).
24. An indoors space for natural science/ environmental exhibits and education is needed in the City/County. (Charlotte Ready Creek & Durham examples). Possible to incorporate outdoor area like a "Live space for Animals or a petting space or barnyard. Another example is Prairie Ridge Eco-station in Raleigh.
25. The paramount needs some upgrades but more important is more support space for all the performance groups who use it. The facility developing is basically run with all volunteers
26. The City is in dire need for event space performing space and convention/meeting too
27. Fundraising for the arts includes wine and dine events like auctions and festivals. The City's policies on how alcohol permits are obtained needs reviewed and simplified.
28. Is extreme sporting something the survey might identify
29. Need better special populations programming for disabled that are not just therapeutic. (Cammack is only a 5 week programs)
30. The fragrance garden is a good example of providing integrates opportunities for disabled and abled populations
31. Does City have plans for Wi-Fi at facilities?

Athletic Groups/Associations

Time/Location = 1:30 AM Kernodle Sr. Ctr.

Attendees: See sign-in sheet

1. Lacrosse (LX) teams in Greensboro partner with schools. How can we get better partnerships for use at elementary schools
2. Have issues with playability of fields after it rains. A running joke is if it rains the day before a game the game is likely to be postponed or cancelled (Danny Fox tourney example). Can we get the fields at Springwood improved and more practice fields?
3. 4 of 6 high schools in area now have lacrosse programs and LX is growing. Recreation department does assist with equipment.
4. A high priority should be to improve drainage at Springwood fields (used for soccer & lacrosse)
5. Based on past tourney there is a need for more fields
6. Many sports LX and soccer are year round now. An indoor facility would help with winter leagues for lacrosse and soccer. (private indoor site in graham is used for soccer)
7. Soccer and LX rec programming is typically Monday thru Friday with soccer running on weekends too. In some cases the younger kids are playing both lacrosse and soccer or another sport this change as they get older
8. Travel team need space is needed badly. Spartanburg's Tyber river baseball/softball facility is a good example with 13 fields. Locating a facility that can be accessed easily is critical to attracting teams and Burlington central location is good.
9. More practice facilities are needed since time is limited at schools sites and they don't have lights. Possibly look at a "practice facility" vs creating a new park.
10. Fairchild park has new field open for practice grass is in grow in stages this will help a little
11. Local programs should be the priority when developing facilities.
12. Springwood is programmed/rented at 100% capacity March thru November. Possibly show the need for more fields
13. Almost \$2-million is brought back to the town almost 2-million is brought back to the City from tournaments and events.
14. City Park is under used for baseball and often is used for flag football and youth soccer. Is this something to consider for changing the layout/design of the park?
15. The movable mounds used for baseball at softball fields need to be bigger. Too small for many pitchers. They sure help get more fields in use, but it's a problem
16. Indoor tennis facility? Has there been any thought to covering the tennis facility with a bubble.
17. Basketball in the area suffers from the lack of "good wood floors".
18. Fairchild Park BMX track needs a better "front door" to make it more inviting and appealing.
19. Fairchild field lighting needs updated
20. Redesign City park for most used sports?
21. Get adjacent land near Springwood Park for expansion? (towards US70)

Churches/Community Groups/ Agencies

Time/Location = 3:30 AM Kernodle Sr. Ctr.

1. Downtown economic development and partnership group hosts coordinates and sponsors events that are coordinated with City/BR&P and will likely continue. (Holiday Parade, Downtown Trick or Treat, Picnic in the Plaza, Music/concert Series).
2. The events have been received positively and for the most part could be expanded with the improvement of City activity space that has been discussed in the Down Town plan near the Depot. (Master Plan is available)
3. Public arts steering committee is looking for additional space downtown to assist with the Paramount, and Depot to accommodate gallery and work space for visual arts but also for rehearsal and storage space for performance arts groups. There is a need for a "Cultural Arts Center.
4. There is some activity for incorporating public art into the downtown thru use of a "sculpture walk" that places lease or purchased art pieces place throughout town. Might be something to look into at City Park.
5. Healthy Alamance promotes healthy choices for residents by supporting activities and programs in the area. They run Dance studio and a Farmers Market at North Park site. They see a need for more outdoor exercise space similar to what has occurred at City Park along the walking trails.
6. We need more spaces like the Co-Op. The Co-Op downtown is a success story for providing downtown with a quality space for access to healthy food choices but also as an activity hub. (they have outdoor area for music/entertainment and outdoor eating)
7. Other Cities have started libraries at parks (sometimes they are called open reading rooms that provide books for use in the park. (something to discuss with the library)
8. There should be Wi-Fi___33 at parks.
9. Dept. Strengths: -The City has done well with recruiting tourneys for soccer, softball tennis and even college conference championships that have provided positive economic impact. They have also done well with providing golf at a fair rate.
Dept. Weaknesses: need to improve access and safety, lacking in pedestrian trails/greenways, and need a skate facility and possibly a disc golf site.
10. Accessible play areas are needed at all parks. Look at using grant to get them (Beth Smith example)
11. Basketball goals are needed at parks. Late 20s/30ish age groups find them lacking.
12. Paramount Theater is showing sign of overuse and needs more capacity. We need space for set construction, performance/rehearsals, gallery/reception and meetings.
13. There is a need for Civic Center. A place for meetings and larger events that don't necessarily need stage space.
14. A space downtown would help promote art in the parks but it could be done at all the larger parks such as City Park. Possibly use grants for installing similar to Beth Smith access, more activities like
15. Use collaborative approach to getting funds for development. Partnering with naming rights might help get facilities built. (for example Home Depot play area)
16. Can "Work-In-Kind" contributions be used for making improvements and adding elements to facilities (a local artist donates to enhance a project, use that value to match potential grant money?)

17. Fairchild Park Center needs AC improvements. Especially with senior groups using it more. (this is true for Bigelow Center too)
18. In the next 10years the Fairchild building will likely need replaced.
19. Could a Children's Museum be located at Eva Barker Park or the lower lot space of the Depot?
20. Can a multipurpose center help solve the need for additional gym space, arts space, and senior space. (be careful in design and promoting since many times they become nothing more than glorified gyms)
21. Can baseball move down town? Not likely because of the short season with "rookie league ball" and if they wanted to move up in competition there is already a team in Greensboro.
22. Need to get a formal agreement with Alamance Burlington Schools System (ABSS). Burlington should review ACRPD's joint use agreement with ABSS and try to get the same deal. Burlington might be able to run programs at school sites by using ACRPD agreement. (based on the current agreement this would likely require ACRPD personnel would be involved to monitor and close sites when school employees are not available)
23. Alamance County is facing tough financial constraints and will likely make changes to how they run administration of athletic programs in the County. Athletic fees start next year.
24. The best coordinated effort with the County is for connecting pedestrian paths with the Haw River Plan.
25. Camp Green Leaves is another shared program that will likely continue with the County.
26. Is there a possible way for the County to subsidize the City for providing services to County residents at City resident rates?
27. A possible location for a Children's Nature Museum is at the ACRPD planned outdoor environmental education site identified in their Master Plan (large site in southeast Alamance on Haw River, of 200 Ac and possibly +1000 Ac with NCDENR involvement). However they have no funding designated for the project.
28. Is there any potential to get all the recreation providers in the area (Burlington, Graham, Mebane) getting together to create a "Park Passport Program"
29. Smoking policy at parks and school sites is still an issue that is being reviewed.
30. Is a healthy choice "vending policy" something the City should entertain.

Focus Group Meeting



Sign In Sheet

Burlington Recreation & Parks Comprehensive Master Plan Update

WOOLPERT PROJECT NO. 71358-03

May 22, 2012

10am-11:15am — Chamber/Business

11:30am-12:45pm — Arts/Environment/Youth Programming

2:00 pm-3:15pm Athletic Groups/Associations

3:30pm-4:45pm Churches/Community Groups/Agencies



NAME	COMPANY/INTEREST GROUP	PHONE	EMAIL OR HOME ADDRESS
1. Robert Cox	Burlington/Alamance County	336-570-1444	robert@digitalalamance.com
2. Kelly May	Glen Raven Inc.	336-586-1626	kmay@glenraven.com
3. Tony Lewis	Burlington Rec. & Parks	336-222-5034	tlewis@ci.burlington.nc.us
4. Lisa Wolff	Burlington Rec. & Parks	336-222-5038	lwolff@ci.burlington.nc.us
5. Mary Jane	Cit. of Burlington	336-222-5022	maryjane@ci.burlington.nc.us
6. PALE PAGE	Wells Fargo Business	336-229-3630	PALE.PAGE@wellsfargo.com
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Focus Group Meeting



Sign In Sheet

Burlington Recreation & Parks Comprehensive Master Plan Update

WOOLPERT PROJECT NO. 71358-03

May 22, 2012

10am-11:15am — Chamber/Business

11:30am-12:45pm — Arts/Environment/Youth Programming

2:00 pm-3:15pm Athletic Groups/Associations

3:30pm-4:45pm Churches/Community Groups/Agencies



NAME	COMPANY/INTEREST GROUP	PHONE	EMAIL OR HOME ADDRESS
1. Brandi McCandless	BRPD	(336) 229-3150	bmccandless@ci.burlington.nc.us
2. BRIAN BAKER	HAW RIVER TRAIL	(336) 229-2229	brian.baker@elemerence-nc.com
3. TOMMY LAYS			
4. Michael Layne	Burlington Water Resources	222-5140	mlayne@ci.burlington.nc.us
5. JENNIFER CUMMINGS		336 675 4332	jenny.cummings@hotmail.com
6. Casey Lewis	Beechwood Metalworks Inc	336 578 2332	beechwood.metal@bellsouth.net
7. Carol Dearth	Alamonte Co Arts (owner)	336-226-4495	carol@alamonte.com
8. APRIL			
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Focus Group Meeting



Sign In Sheet

Burlington Recreation & Parks Comprehensive Master Plan Update

WOOLPERT PROJECT NO. 71358-03

May 22, 2012

10am-11:15am — Chamber/Business

11:30am-12:45pm — Arts/Environment/Youth Programming

2:00 pm-3:15pm Athletic Groups/Associations

3:30pm-4:45pm Churches/Community Groups/Agencies



WOOLPERT
DESIGN GEOSPATIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

NAME	COMPANY/INTEREST GROUP	PHONE	EMAIL OR HOME ADDRESS
1. Jessica Hickin	Bur Rec + Parks	336-222-5030	jhricks@ci.burlington.nc.us
2. Bob Kernodle	LAX Coach	336.213.7253	rkernodle@gmail.com
3. Ben Overby	Coach / Burlington Rec + Parks	336-269-2880	bdo@vernonlewis.com
4. Tracy Gaur			
5. Lisa Wolf	Burl. Rec. & Parks	602-5038	lisa@ci.burlington.nc.us
6. Chad Coburn	Town of Gibsonville / Soccer Coach	336-214-6484	finance@qibgsonville.net
7. Jim Upchurch	Coach / Parks & Rec. comm.	336-380-0956	Jim@JimUpchurch.com
8. Taylor Saxe	Director of Soccer Ass./Incl.	704-621-7086	Taylor.Saxe@gmail.com
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Focus Group Meeting

Sign In Sheet

Burlington Recreation & Parks Comprehensive Master Plan Update

WOOLPERT PROJECT NO. 71358-03

May 22, 2012

10am-11:15am — Chamber/Business

11:30am-12:45pm — Arts/Environment/Youth Programming

2:00 pm-3:15pm Athletic Groups/Associations

3:30pm-4:45pm Churches/Community Groups/Agencies



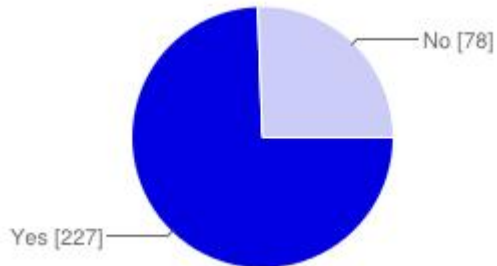
NAME	COMPANY/INTEREST GROUP	PHONE	EMAIL OR HOME ADDRESS
1. Anne Morris	Burlington Downtown Corp	336-222-5002	amorris@burlingtondowntown.com
2. Jim Self	City of Burlington - Rec. Parks	336-222-5030	jself@ci.burlington.nc.us
3. Tim Johnson	City of Burlington Rec. Parks	336-222-5030	tjohnson@ci.burlington.nc.us
4. Tony Guss			
5. Javie Smith	City of Burlington R+P	336-222-5135	jessm.th@ci.burlington.nc.us
6. Rosa R. Terrell		336-228-8231	
7. Lisa Pennington	Alamance Regional Medical	336-538-7501	lpennington@armc.com
8. Syre Haggard	Ala County Rec + Parks	336-209-2380	bryen.haggard@alamance-nc.com
9. APPLIC DARR	Healthy Alamance	336-513-5590	ADurr@armc.com
10. Lisa Wolf			
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305

[responses](#)

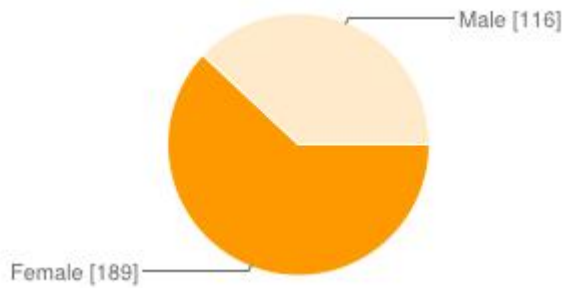
Summary [See complete responses](#)

Are you a City of Burlington resident?



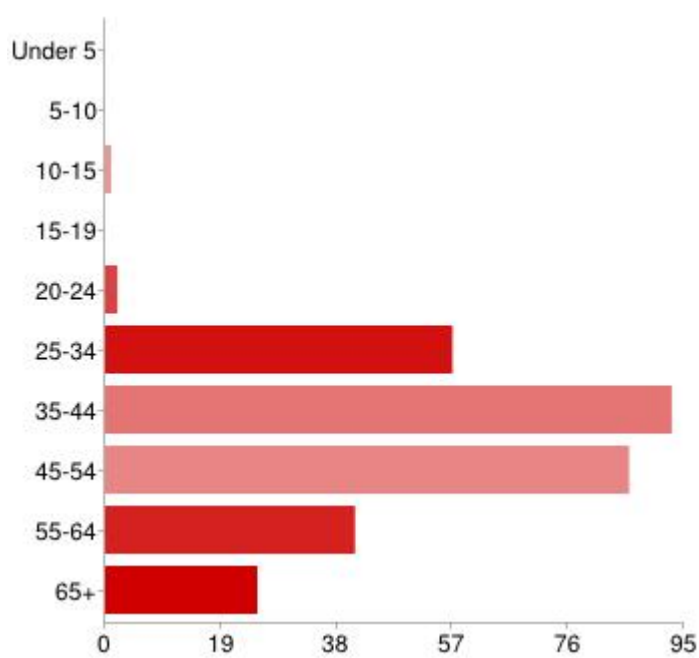
Yes	227	74%
No	78	26%

Gender



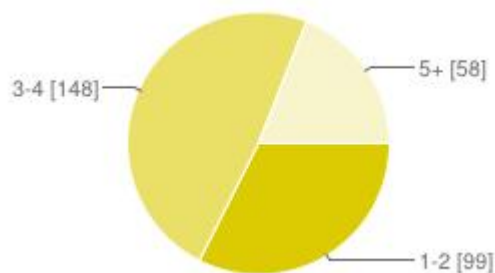
Female	189	62%
Male	116	38%

Age



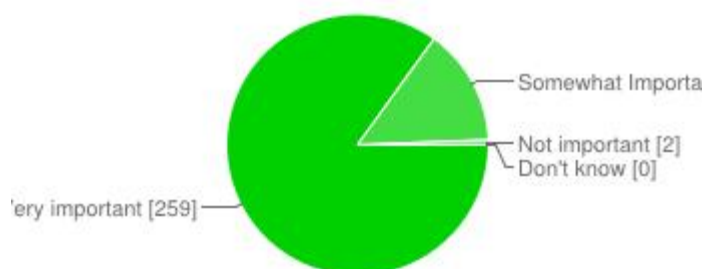
Under 5	0	0%
5-10	0	0%
10-15	1	0%
15-19	0	0%
20-24	2	1%
25-34	57	19%
35-44	93	30%
45-54	86	28%
55-64	41	13%
65+	25	8%

Counting yourself, how many people live in your household?



1-2	99	32%
3-4	148	49%
5+	58	19%

In your opinion, how important is the contribution of recreation and parks to the quality of life in the City of Burlington?



Very important	259	85%
Somewhat Important	44	14%
Not important	2	1%
Don't know	0	0%

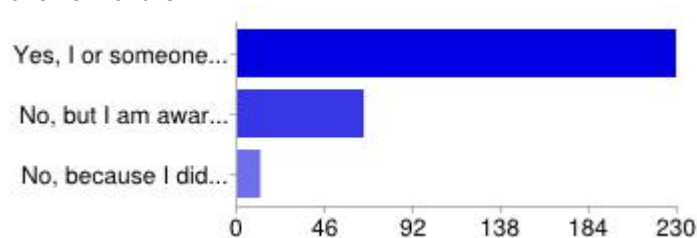
Which of the following recreation and leisure activities do you and others in your household participate?
(Check all that apply)



Afterschool Care	48	16%
Arts & Crafts	85	28%
Badminton	14	5%
Baseball	106	35%
Basketball	99	32%
Biking	88	29%
Boating/Canoeing/ Kayaking	104	34%
Camping	67	22%
Camps	80	26%
Cultural Arts	92	30%
Dance	51	17%
Drama/Theater	69	23%
Exercise/Fitness	162	53%
Festivals & Special Events	206	68%
Fishing	96	31%
Football	53	17%
Gardening	115	38%
Golf	90	30%
Hiking	117	38%
Indoor Playground Facilities	63	21%
Lacrosse	23	8%
Martial Aarts	16	5%
Open Gym	45	15%
Outdoor Adventure Activities	87	29%
Outdoor Concerts	149	49%
Pickle Ball	3	1%
Picnics	133	44%
Preschool	31	10%
Playgrounds	165	54%
Reading	107	35%
Rock Climbing	28	9%
Roller Hockey	5	2%
Senior Adult Programs	33	11%
Skateboarding	17	6%
Soccer	114	37%
Softball	86	28%
Special Needs Recreation	13	4%
Summer Camps	92	30%
Swimming	152	50%
Tennis	76	25%
Table Tennis	29	10%
Volleyball	30	10%
Walking/Jogging	186	61%
Other	18	6%

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

Have you or another member of your household participated in any recreation programs offered by the Burlington twelve months?



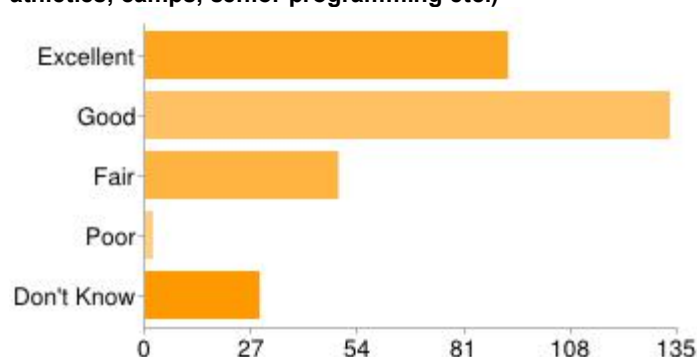
Yes, I or someone in my household has participated

No, but I am aware that recreation programs are offered

No, because I did not know that recreation programs are offered

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may not add to 100%

Overall, how would you rate the PROGRAMS offered by Burlington Recreation & Parks? (example- athletics, camps, senior programming etc.)



Excellent **92** 30%

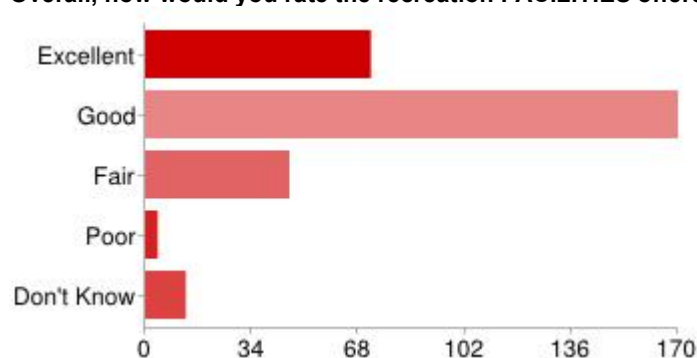
Good **133** 44%

Fair **49** 16%

Poor **2** 1%

Don't Know **29** 10%

Overall, how would you rate the recreation FACILITIES offered by Burlington Recreation & Parks?



Excellent **72** 24%

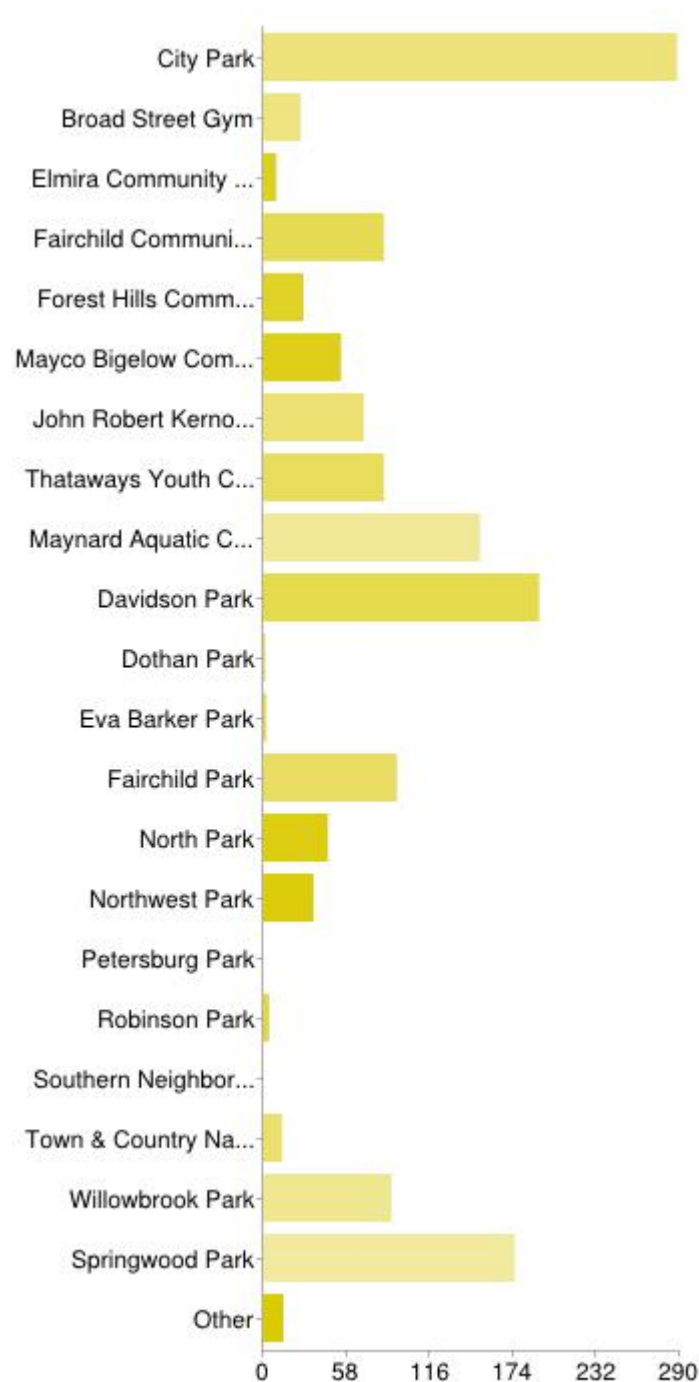
Good **170** 56%

Fair **46** 15%

Poor **4** 1%

Don't Know **13** 4%

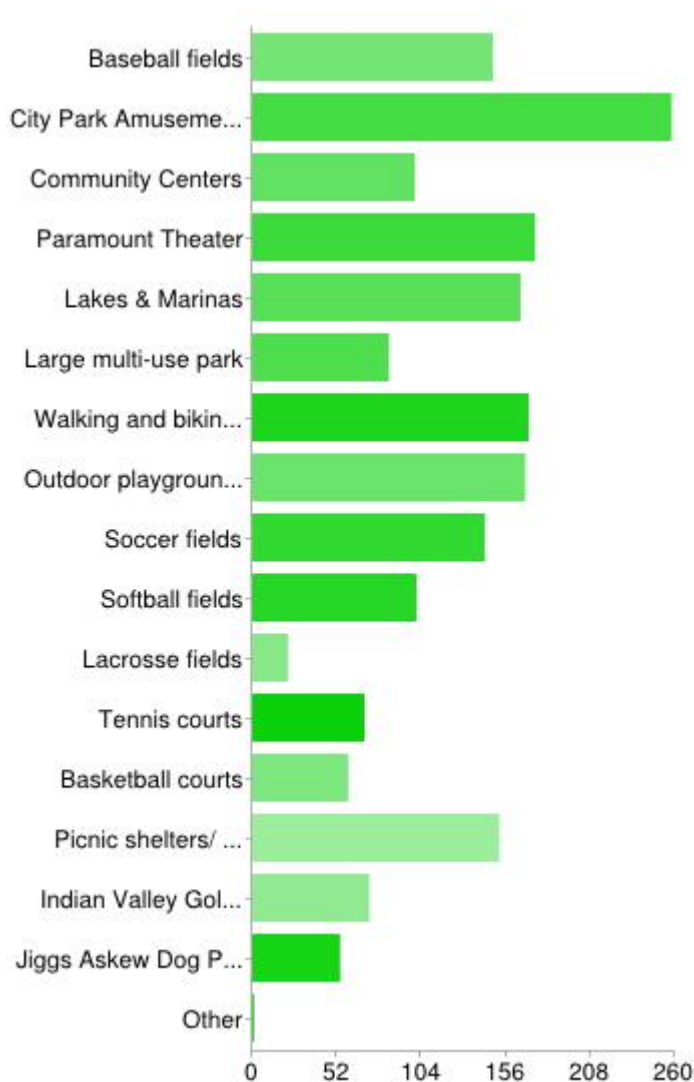
Which of the following City of Burlington parks or facilities have you or other members of your household visited the past twelve months? (Check all that apply)



City Park	288
Broad Street Gym	28
Elmira Community Center	1
Fairchild Community Center	88
Forest Hills Community Center	28
Mayco Bigelow Community Center	58
John Robert Kernodle Senior Activities Center	78
Thataways Youth Center	88
Maynard Aquatic Center	174
Davidson Park	198
Dothan Park	1
Eva Barker Park	1
Fairchild Park	98
North Park	48
Northwest Park	38
Petersburg Park	1
Robinson Park	1
Southern Neighborhood Park	1
Town & Country Nature Park	18
Willowbrook Park	88
Springwood Park	178
Other	18

People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

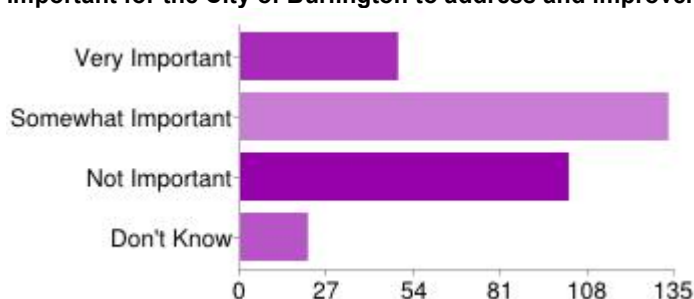
Which of the following Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities have you or other members of your household visited in the past two years? (Check all that apply)



Baseball fields	148	49%
City Park Amusement Park	258	85%
Community Centers	100	33%
Paramount Theater	174	57%
Lakes & Marinas	165	54%
Large multi-use park	84	28%
Walking and biking trails	170	56%
Outdoor playgrounds for children	168	55%
Soccer fields	143	47%
Softball fields	101	33%
Lacrosse fields	22	7%
Tennis courts	69	23%
Basketball courts	59	19%
Picnic shelters/ rental buildings	152	50%
Indian Valley Golf Course	72	24%
Jiggs Askew Dog Park @ City Park	54	18%
Other	1	0%

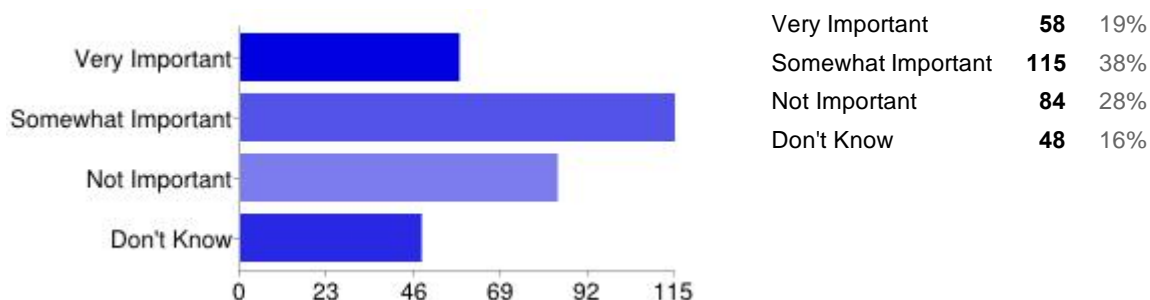
People may select more than one checkbox, so percentages may add up to more than 100%.

Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Increase the number of parks

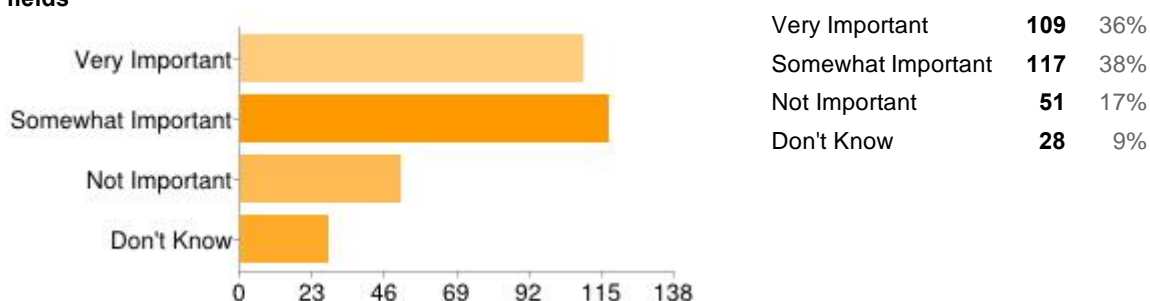


Very Important	49	16%
Somewhat Important	133	44%
Not Important	102	33%
Don't Know	21	7%

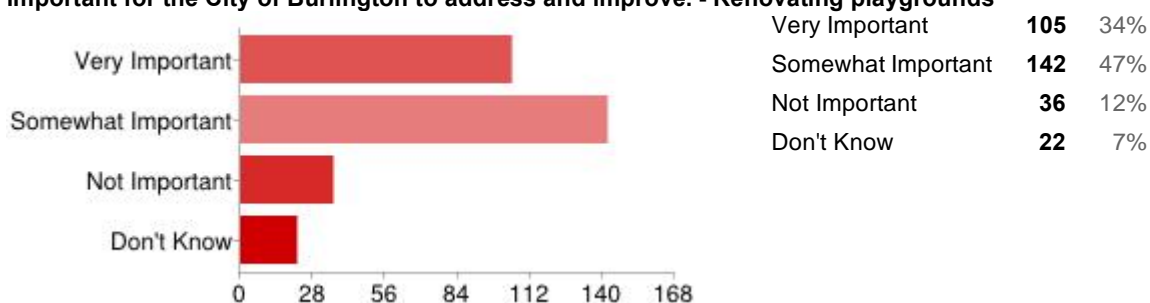
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Adding gym space



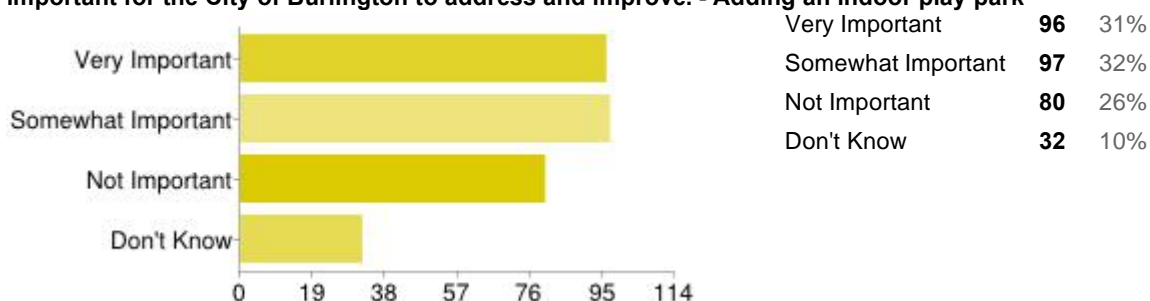
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Renovating existing outdoor athletic fields



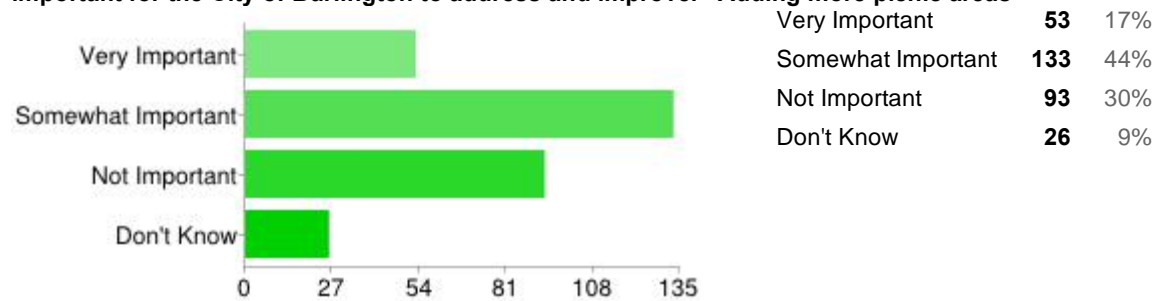
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Renovating playgrounds



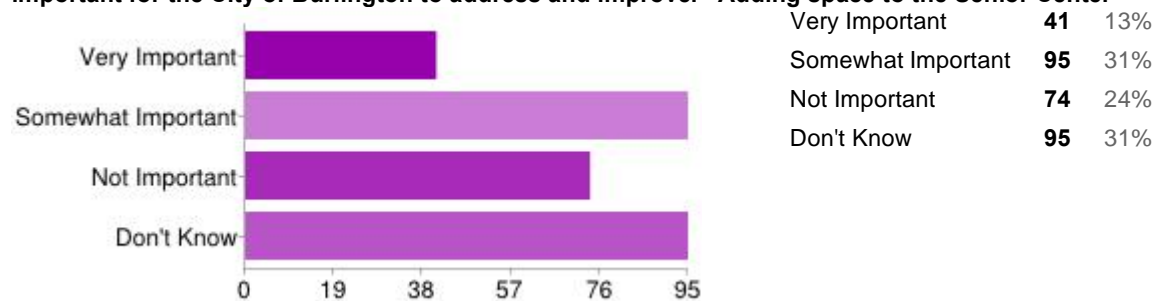
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Adding an indoor play park



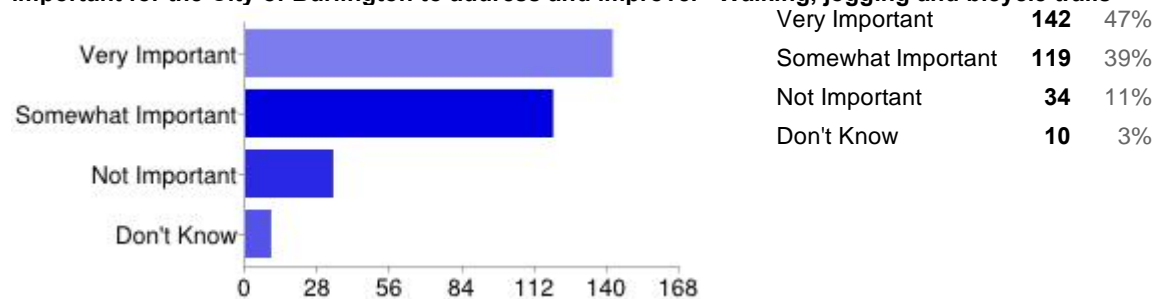
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Adding more picnic areas



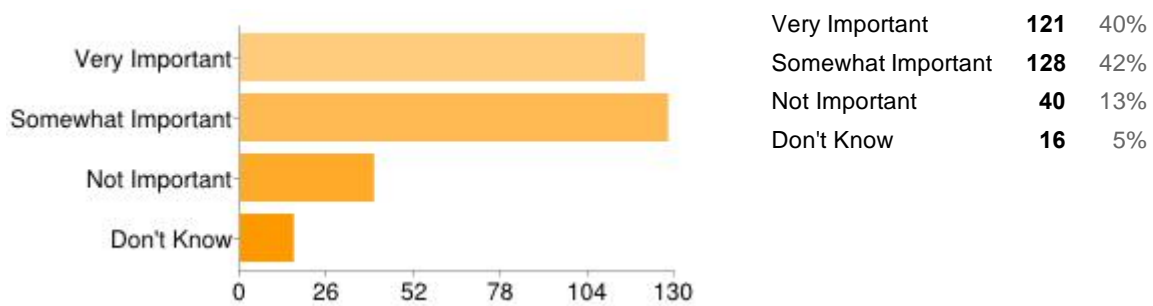
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Adding space to the Senior Center



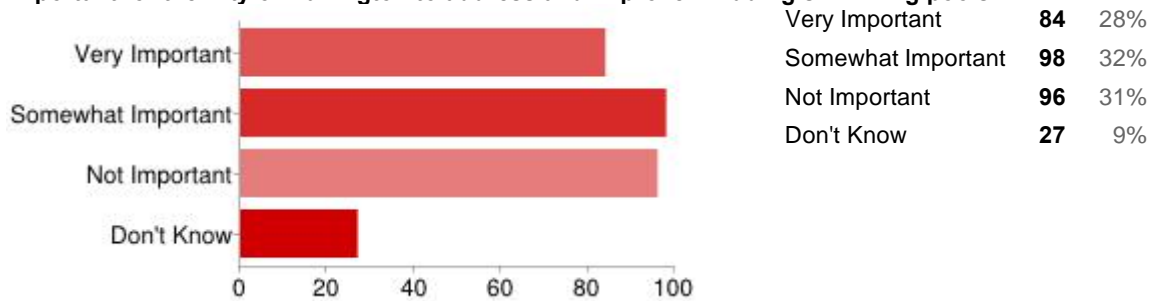
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Walking, jogging and bicycle trails



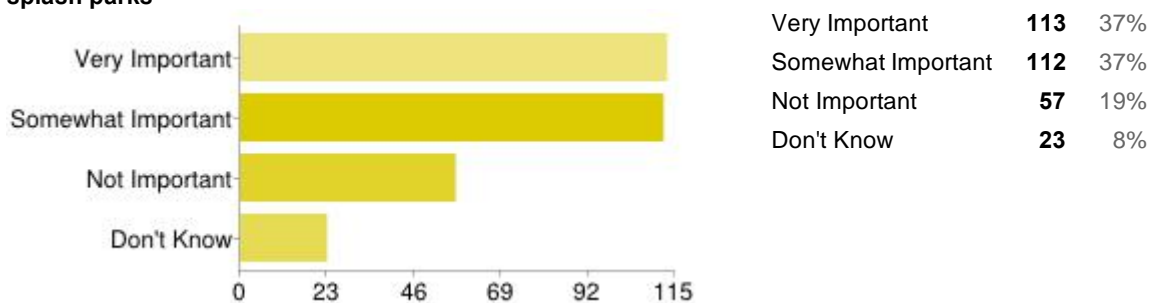
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Expanding existing parks and open space



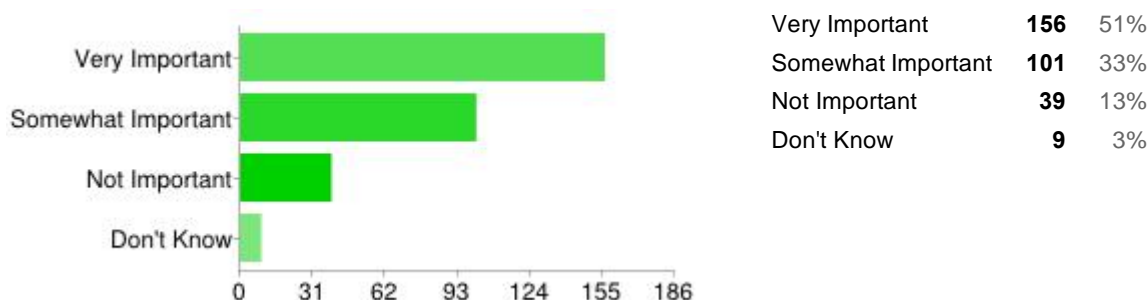
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Adding swimming pools



Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Adding other water features such as splash parks



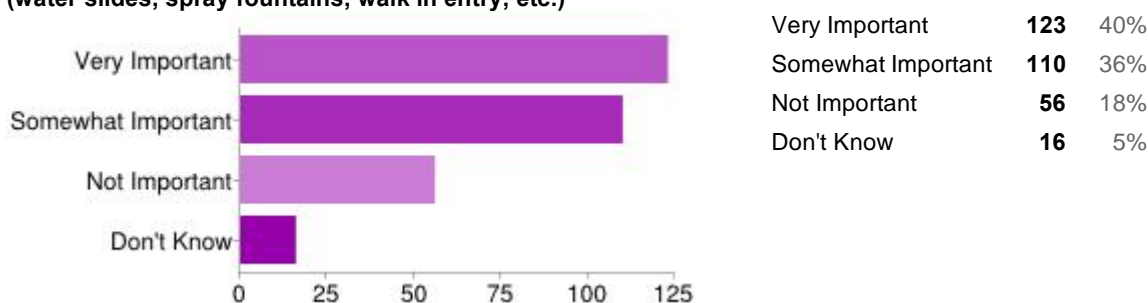
Several improvements can be made to existing Burlington Recreation & Parks facilities. For each improvement, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for the City of Burlington to address and improve. - Develop greenways and improved modes of pedestrian travel from parks to communities



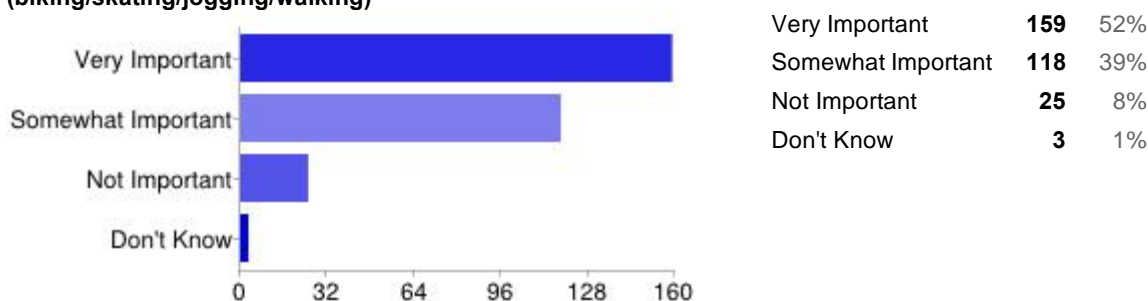
Other, please specify

we need a free outdoor skateboard park like they have put in marsh park in raleigh...also an outdoor rollerhockey rink would be great
 interested in the Greenways
 CLEAN RESTROOMS
 Paramount Theatre ...

Burlington Recreation & Parks may consider developing and maintaining NEW recreation and parks facilities. For each item listed below, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for us to develop. - Outdoor pools with special features (water slides, spray fountains, walk in entry, etc.)

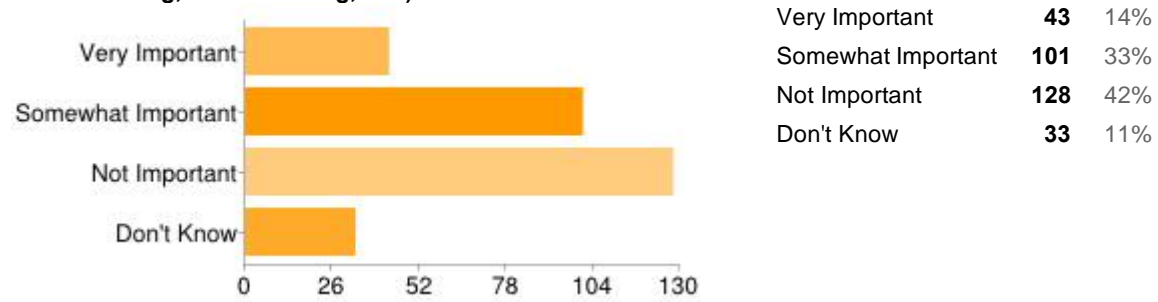


Burlington Recreation & Parks may consider developing and maintaining NEW recreation and parks facilities. For each item listed below, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for us to develop. - Multipurpose trails (biking/skating/jogging/walking)

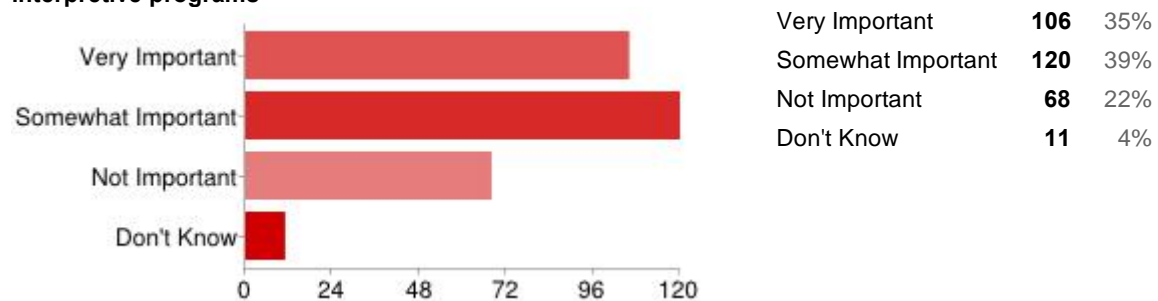


Burlington Recreation & Parks may consider developing and maintaining NEW recreation and parks facilities. For each item listed below, please indicate whether you think it is very important,

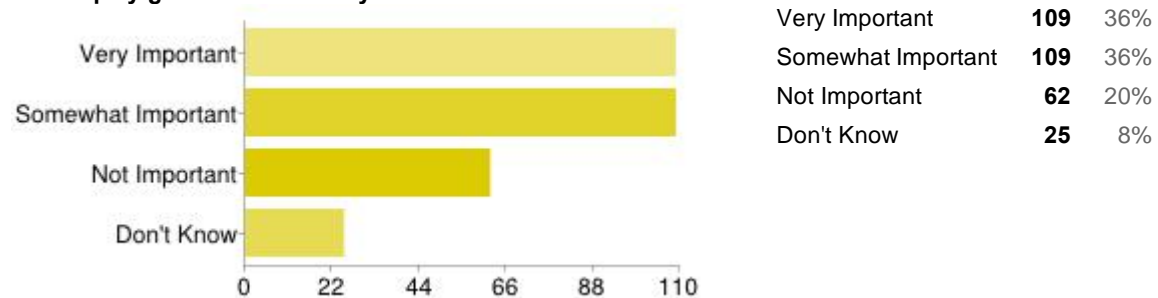
somewhat important, or not important for us to develop. - Extreme sports park (BMX, skateboarding, in-line skating, etc.)



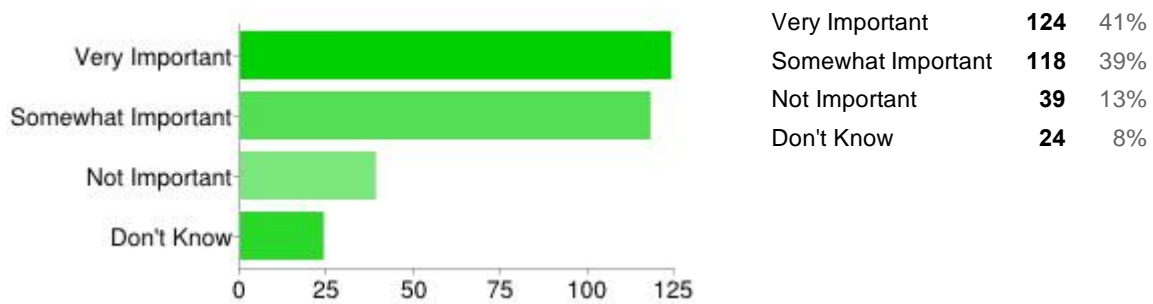
Burlington Recreation & Parks may consider developing and maintaining NEW recreation and parks facilities. For each item listed below, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for us to develop. - Environmental education center, nature interpretive programs



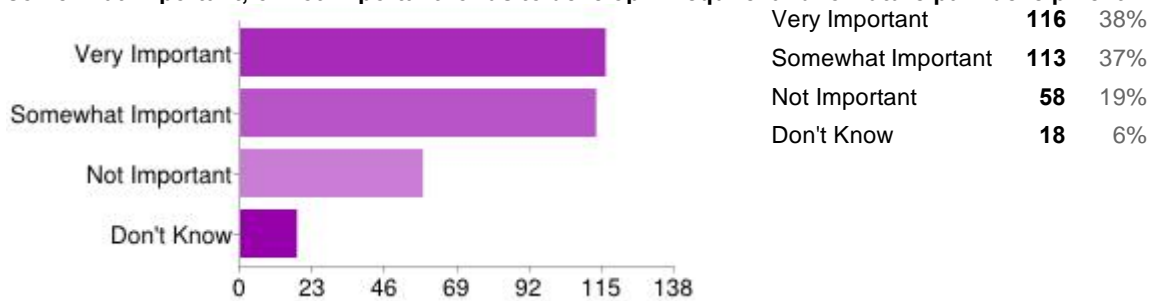
Burlington Recreation & Parks may consider developing and maintaining NEW recreation and parks facilities. For each item listed below, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for us to develop. - Indoor recreation center with a gym and indoor play ground west of City Park



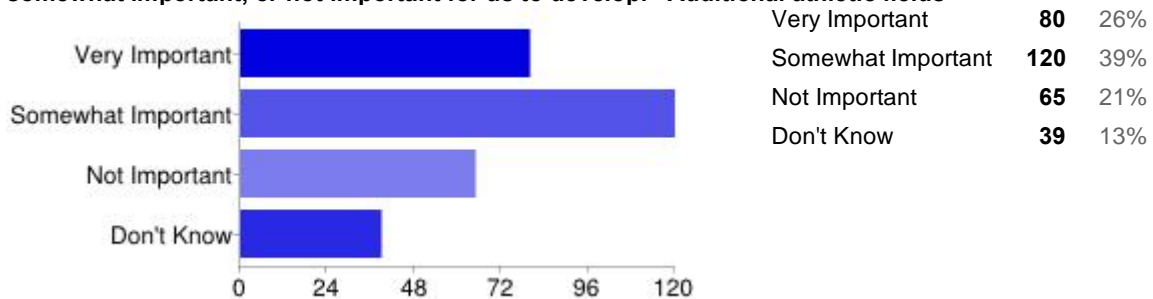
Burlington Recreation & Parks may consider developing and maintaining NEW recreation and parks facilities. For each item listed below, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for us to develop. - Handicap accessible playgrounds



Burlington Recreation & Parks may consider developing and maintaining NEW recreation and parks facilities. For each item listed below, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for us to develop. - Acquire land for future park development



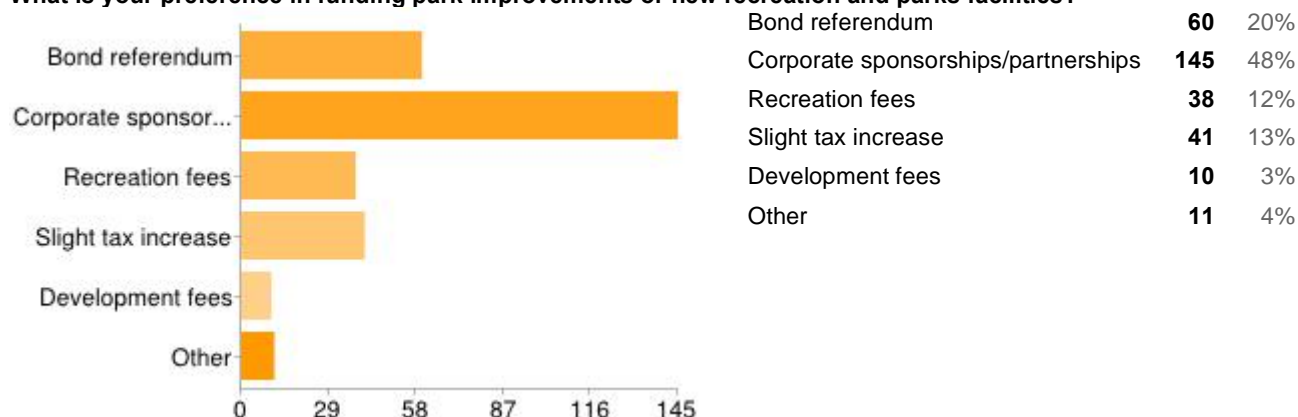
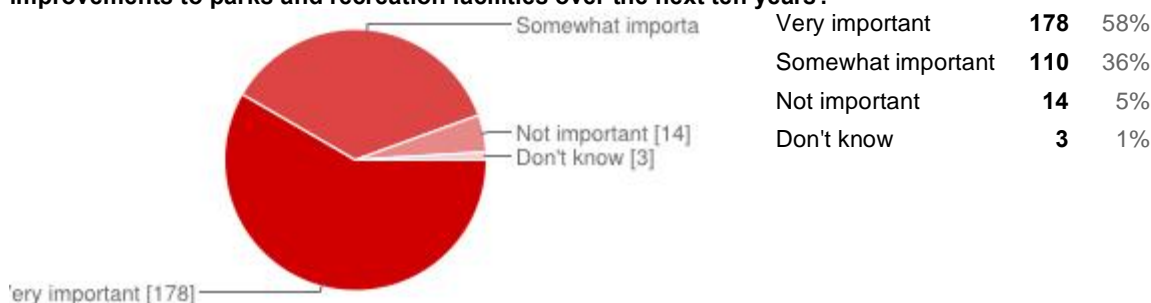
Burlington Recreation & Parks may consider developing and maintaining NEW recreation and parks facilities. For each item listed below, please indicate whether you think it is very important, somewhat important, or not important for us to develop. - Additional athletic fields



Other, please specify

for adults to learn to speak other languages and to learn other cultures first!
More Lacrosse!
regards to coaching--everyone I speak wi ...

fix the outdated things
City sports are really lacking in

What is your preference in funding park improvements or new recreation and parks facilities?**Compared to other priorities for Burlington, how important do you think it is for the City to fund improvements to parks and recreation facilities over the next ten years?****Optional: If you would like further information about the parks, facilities or services, please provide us with your information.**

1519 albright avenue Burlington. Zdoughty@gmail.com LaRee' Goforth325
 FountainPlaceBurlington, NC 27215LaReeG4th@aol.com336-343-3208 Need cleaner public
 restrooms! I don't
 need a follow up, but if you have questions and want more information, I'm happy to discuss further: Jodean Schmiederer,
 539 Parkview Dr, Burlington, NC 27215 jodean_s@yahoo.com 336-280-
 6755 shawn_easter@hotmail.com Randy Watson,628 clover ct, Burlington, nc 27217, 336-
 266-0023 Barbara Carlton, 938 Elon Ossipee Road, Elon, NC
 27244/bcarlton63@gmail.com336.266.2962 Sharon Roderick336-261-3119
 sroderick@triad.rr.com Aaro ...

Optional: If you have additional comments, questions or concerns please include them here.

Burlington desperately needs improved pedestrian and bicycle paths, trails and right-of-ways. These resources are critical for developing a safe and active community. We need more bike lanes and side walks especially leading towards parks, community areas and shopping centers. I love walking or biking instead of driving but the lack of good bike lanes and sidewalks makes it very dangerous in most areas of the city. Could it be possible to rent a

pontoon boat from the marina? Thank you for all your hard work in making our recreation and parks better. Back in my home state of Michigan, when a ...

